

JUDICIAL COUNCIL OF GEORGIA

General Session

Friday, August 12, 2022

10 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.



James H. "Sloppy Floyd" Building

Floyd Room

2 Martin Luther King, Jr. Dr

West Tower, 20th Floor

Atlanta, GA 30334

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Livestream at <https://www.youtube.com/judicialcouncilofgeorgia>

- 1. Preliminary Remarks & Swearing In of New Members**
(Chief Justice Michael P. Boggs, Est. Time – 5 Min.)
- 2. Introduction of Judicial Council Members/Roll Call**
(Chief Justice Michael P. Boggs & Ms. Cynthia H. Clanton, Est. Time – 5 Min.)
- 3. Pledge of Allegiance**
(Chief Judge Rebecca J. Pitts, Est. Time – 1 Min.)
- 4. Approval of Minutes (*Action Item*)** **TAB 1**
(Chief Justice Michael P. Boggs, Est. Time – 2 Min.)
- 5. Presentation: Updates to Affidavit of Public Officer Filing Requirements**
(Mr. David Emadi, Georgia Government Transparency & Campaign Finance Commission, Est. Time – 5 Min.)
- 6. Judicial Council Committee Reports**
 - A. ARPA Funding Committee (*Written report*)** **TAB 2**
 - B. Budget Committee (*Action Item*)** **TAB 3**
(Presiding Judge Sara L. Doyle, Est. Time – 10 Min.)
 - C. Judicial Salaries and Supplements Committee (*Written report*)** **TAB 4**
 - D. Legislation Committee (*Action Item*)** **TAB 5**
(Chief Judge Brian M. Rickman, Est. Time – 5 Min.)
 - E. Judicial Workload Assessment Committee (*Action Item*)** **TAB 6**
(Chief Judge Robert D. Leonard, Est. Time – 20 Min.)
 - F. Technology Committee** **TAB 7**
(Judge Stephen D. Kelley, Est. Time – 5 Min.)
 - G. Judicial COVID-19 Task Force (*Written report*)** **TAB 8**

H. Grants Committee (<i>Written report</i>)	TAB 9
I. Strategic Plan Committee (<i>Written report</i>)	TAB 10
7. Report from Judicial Council/AOC (Ms. Cynthia H. Clanton, Est. Time – 10 Min.)	TAB 11
8. Reports from Courts, Councils, & State Bar (Est. Time – 15 min.)	TAB 12
A. Supreme Court	
B. Court of Appeals	
C. State-wide Business Court	
D. Council of Superior Court Judges	
E. Council of State Court Judges	
F. Council of Juvenile Court Judges	
G. Council of Probate Court Judges	
H. Council of Magistrate Court Judges	
I. Council of Municipal Court Judges	
J. State Bar of Georgia	
9. Reports from additional Judicial Branch Agencies (Est. Time – 10 Min.)	TAB 13
A. Council of Accountability Court Judges	
B. Georgia Commission on Dispute Resolution	
C. Council of Superior Court Clerks	
D. Chief Justice’s Commission on Professionalism	
E. Georgia Council of Court Administrators	
F. Institute of Continuing Judicial Education	
G. Judicial Qualifications Commission	
10. Old/New Business (Chief Justice Michael P. Boggs, Est. Time – 3 Min.)	

11. Recognition of Outgoing Member

(Chief Justice Michael P. Boggs, Est. Time – 3 Min.)

12. Concluding Remarks & Adjournment of Meeting

(Chief Justice Michael P. Boggs, Est. Time – 3 Min.)

13. Group Photograph of Judicial Council Members

14. Boxed Lunch

Next Judicial Council Meeting – General Session

Friday, December 9, 2022 10 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. Zoom Conferencing

Proposed Meeting Calendar CY 2023 – Judicial Council General Session

Friday, February 10, 2023	10 a.m. – 12 p.m.	Zoom Conferencing
Friday, April 21, 2023	10 a.m. – 12 p.m.	Columbus Convention & Trade Center / Columbus, GA
Friday, August 18, 2023	10 a.m. – 12 p.m.	Location TBD
Friday, December 8, 2023	10 a.m. – 12 p.m.	Zoom Conferencing

Judicial Council of Georgia

Members as of July 18, 2022

<p>Chief Justice Michael P. Boggs Chair</p>	<p>Supreme Court</p>	<p>Nathan Deal Judicial Center 330 Capitol Avenue, S.E. 1st Floor, Suite 1100 Atlanta, GA 30334</p>	<p>P: 404-657-3470 boggs@gasupreme.us F: 404-656-2253</p>
<p>Presiding Justice Nels S.D. Peterson Vice-Chair</p>	<p>Supreme Court</p>	<p>Nathan Deal Judicial Center 330 Capitol Avenue, S.E. 1st Floor, Suite 1100 Atlanta, GA 30334</p>	<p>P: 404-656-3470 petersonn@gasupreme.us F: 404-656-2253</p>
<p>Chief Judge Brian M. Rickman</p>	<p>Court of Appeals</p>	<p>Nathan Deal Judicial Center 330 Capitol Avenue, S.E. Suite 1601 Atlanta, GA 30334</p>	<p>P: 404-656-3450 rickmanb@gaappeals.us F: 404-651-6187</p>
<p>Vice Chief Judge Amanda H. Mercier</p>	<p>Court of Appeals</p>	<p>Nathan Deal Judicial Center 330 Capitol Avenue, S.E. Suite 1601 Atlanta, GA 30334</p>	<p>P: 404-656-3450 merciera@gaappeals.us F: 404-651-6187</p>
<p>Judge Walter W. Davis</p>	<p>Georgia State-Wide Business Court</p>	<p>Nathan Deal Judicial Center 330 Capitol Avenue, S.E. Suite BC320 Atlanta, GA 30334</p>	<p>P: 404-656-3080 davisw@gbsbc.us</p>
<p>Judge Arthur L. Smith III President, CSCJ</p>	<p>Superior Court</p>	<p>Chattahoochee Judicial Circuit PO Box 1340 Columbus, GA 31902</p>	<p>P: 706-321-7355 arthursmith@columbusga.gov</p>
<p>Judge John E. Morse President-Elect, CSCJ</p>	<p>Superior Court</p>	<p>Chatham Judicial Circuit Chatham County Courthouse 133 Montgomery St., Suite 213 Savannah, GA 31401</p>	<p>P: 912-652-7236 jemorse@chathamcounty.org</p>
<p>Judge D. Jay Stewart 1st JAD</p>	<p>Superior Court</p>	<p>Atlantic Judicial Circuit Evans County Courthouse P.O. Box 842 Claxton, GA 30417</p>	<p>P: 912-739-4922 jaystewart217@hotmail.com F: 912-739-4950 stewart.judicial.assistant@gmail.com</p>
<p>Judge Melanie B. Cross 2nd JAD</p>	<p>Superior Court</p>	<p>Tifton Judicial Circuit PO Box 7090 Tifton, GA 31793</p>	<p>P: 229-386-7904 melanie.cross@tiftcounty.org</p>
<p>Judge W. James Sizemore, Jr. 3rd JAD</p>	<p>Superior Court</p>	<p>Southwestern Judicial Circuit PO Drawer 784 Americus, GA 31709</p>	<p>P: 229-924-2269 wjsizemorej@gmail.com F: 229-924-1614</p>

Judicial Council of Georgia

Members as of July 18, 2022

Chief Judge Asha F. Jackson 4th JAD	Superior Court	Stone Mountain Judicial Circuit DeKalb County Courthouse 556 N. McDonough Street Suite 6230 Decatur, GA 30030	P: 404-371-2344 afjackson@dekalbcountyga.gov F: 404-371-2002
Chief Judge Christopher S. Brasher 5th JAD	Superior Court	Atlanta Judicial Circuit T-8905 Justice Center Tower 185 Central Avenue SW STE T-8905 Atlanta, GA 30303	P: 404-612-4335 chris.brasher@fultoncountyga.gov F: 404-612-2569
Chief Judge W. Fletcher Sams 6th JAD	Superior Court	Griffin Judicial Circuit Fayette County Justice Center One Center Drive Fayetteville, GA 30214	P: 770-716-4282 fletcher@fayettecountyga.gov F: 770-716-4862
Judge Robert Flournoy, III 7th JAD	Superior Court	Cobb Judicial Circuit 70 Haynes Street Marietta, GA 30090	P: 678-581-5400 robert.flournoy@cobbcounty.org F: 678-581-5407
Chief Judge Sarah Wall 8th JAD	Superior Court	Oconee Judicial Circuit PO Box 1096 Hawkinsville, GA 31036	P: 478-783-2900 walls@eighthdistrict.org F: 478-783-2902
Judge R. Timothy Hamil 9th JAD	Superior Court	Gwinnett Judicial Circuit 75 Langley Drive Lawrenceville, GA 30046	P: 770-822-8672 tim.hamill@gwinnettcounty.com F: 770-822-8536
Chief Judge Joseph H. Booth 10th JAD	Superior Court	Piedmont Judicial Circuit 5000 Jackson Parkway Suite 330 Jefferson, GA 30549	P: 706-387-6392 jbooth@jacksoncounty.gov
Judge R. Violet Bennett President, CStCJ	State Court	Wayne County 392 E. Walnut Street Jesup, GA 31546	P: 912-427-4240 singinglawyer@bennett-lindsey.com
Chief Judge John Kent Edwards, Jr. President-Elect, CStCJ	State Court	Lowndes County P.O. Box 1661 Valdosta, GA 31603	P: 229-671-2600 jedwards@lowndescounty.com
Judge Render M. Heard, Jr. President, CJCJ	Juvenile Court	Tifton Judicial Circuit 225 Tift Avenue North Suite C-1 Tifton, GA 31793	P: 229-386-7909 render.heard@tiftcounty.org

Judicial Council of Georgia

Members as of July 18, 2022

Chief Judge Lindsay H. Burton President-Elect, CJCJ*	Juvenile Court	Northeastern Judicial Circuit P.O. Box 311 Gainesville, GA 30503	P: 770-531-6927	lbarton@hallcounty.org
Judge B. Shawn Rhodes President, CPCJ	Probate Court	Wilcox County 215 South Depot St. Abbeville, GA 31001	P: 229-467-3201	judgeshawnrhodes@gmail.com
Judge Danielle McRae President-Elect, CPCJ	Probate Court	Upson County P.O. Box 906 Thomaston, GA 30286	P: 706-647-7015 F: 706-646-3341	dmcrae@upsoncountyga.org
Chief Judge Rebecca J. Pitts President, CMCJ	Magistrate Court	Butts County 625 W. 3 rd St. Suite 11 Jackson, GA 30233	P: 770-775-8220	rpitts@buttscounty.org
Chief Judge Brandon Bryson President-Elect, CMCJ	Magistrate Court	Bartow County 112 W. Cherokee Ave Suite 101 Cartersville, GA 30120	P: 770-387-5070 F: 770-387-5073	brysonb@bartowcountyga.gov
Judge JaDawnya C. Baker President, CMuCJ	Municipal Court	Municipal Court of Atlanta 150 Garnett Street, SW Atlanta, GA 30303	P: 404-588-5970	jcbaker@atlantaga.gov
Judge Matthew M. McCord President-Elect, CMuCJ	Municipal Court	Municipal Court of Stockbridge 4602 N. Henry Blvd. Stockbridge, GA 30281	P: 770-389-7906	matt@mmccordlaw.com
Ms. Sally Akins President, State Bar of Georgia	State Bar of GA	1480 Chatham Parkway Suite 210 Savannah, GA 31405	P: 912-417-2879	sakins@milesmediation.com

**Until 12/31/22*

Administrative Office of the Courts

244 Washington St. SW, Suite 300
Atlanta, GA 30334

Cynthia H. Clanton, Director

As of August 1, 2022

Director's Office

Administration

Alexis Bauman

Front Desk
404-656-5171

Budget

Andrew Zoll

Governmental and Trial Court Liaison

Tracy Mason

LaShawn Murphy

Cheryl Karounos

Shirley Roberts

Shimike Dodson
ARPA

Human Resources

Jacqueline Booker

Janine Wilson

General Counsel

Jessica Farah

Darron Enns

Carole Collier

Billy Scott

Judicial Services

Stephanie Hines
Division Director

Research and Data Analysis

Matthew Bishop

Jeffrey Thorpe

Amber Richardson

Andres Bosque

Court Professionals

Herbert Gordon

LaShica Briscoe

Tiffanie Bacon

Audrianna Smith

Arnecia Ringer

Communications, Children, Families & the Courts

Michelle Barclay
Division Director

Noelle Lagueux-Alvarez

Elaine Johnson

Latoinna Lawrence

Paula Myrick

Bruce Shaw

Diana Johnson

Ca'Dedra Sullivan

Financial Administration

Maleia Wilson
CFO/Division Director

Kim Burley

Latricia Harris

Celesta Murray

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Tax Intercept

Andrew Theus

Information Technology

Ben Luke
CTO/Division
Director

Devin Cooper

Jessica Jones

Amber Range

Angela He

Kristy King

Christina Liu

Michael Neuren

Kriste Pope

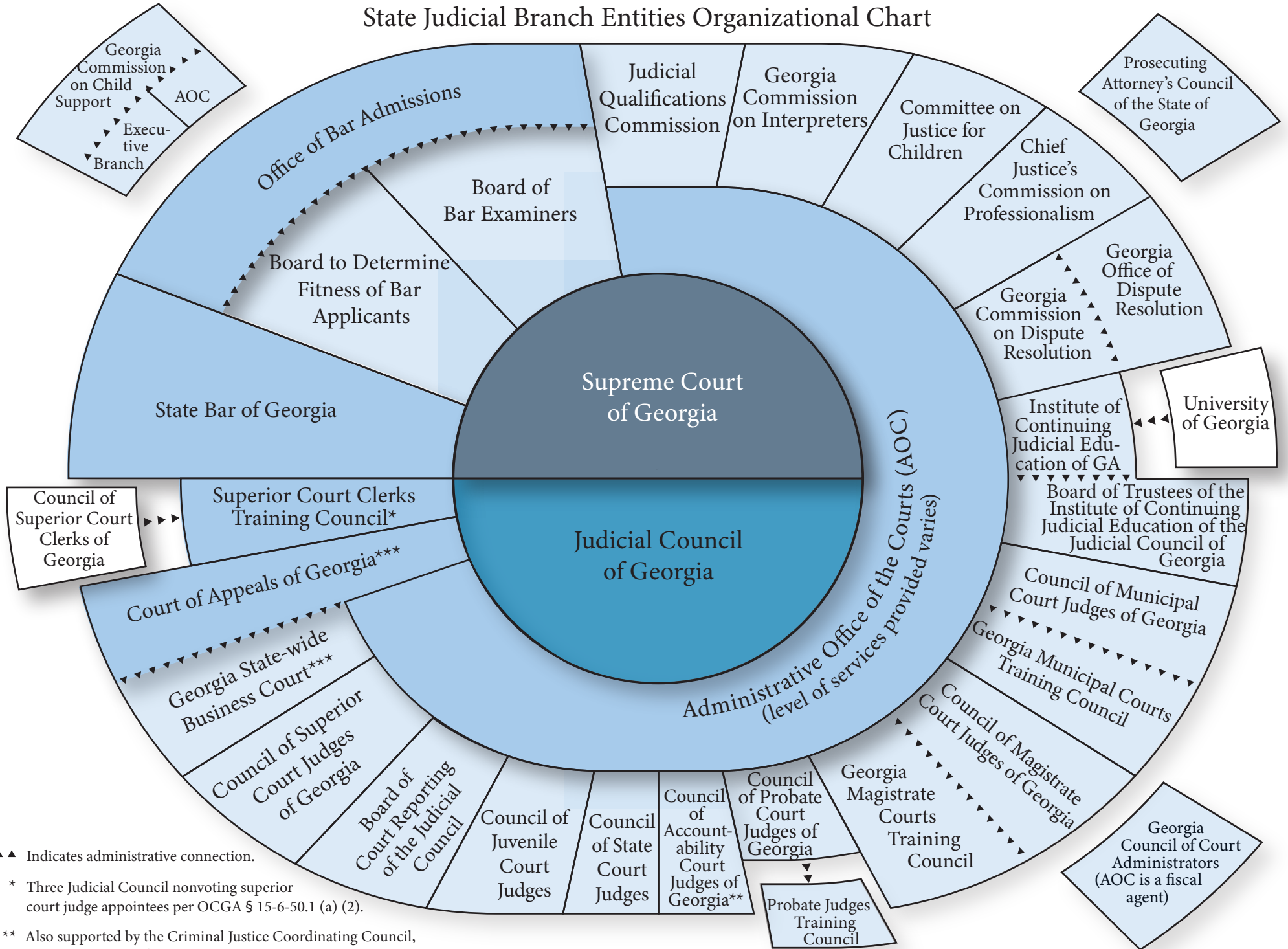
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State Judicial Branch Entities Organizational Chart



▲▲ Indicates administrative connection.

* Three Judicial Council nonvoting superior court judge appointees per OCGA § 15-6-50.1 (a) (2).

** Also supported by the Criminal Justice Coordinating Council, an Executive Branch agency.

*** The GSBC is "assigned for administrative purposes only to the Court of Appeals" per OCGA § 15- 5A-16.



Judicial Council of Georgia

STRATEGIC PLAN

FY 2020-2023
Revised

VISION

To improve justice in all Georgia courts through **collaboration, innovation, and information.**

MISSION

The Judicial Council and AOC lead collaboration on policy across Georgia's courts to **improve the administration of justice in Georgia.**

GUIDING PRINCIPLES

Uphold the independence and integrity of the judiciary.

Promote efficient and effective administration of justice.

Use data to lead to data-driven services and programs for the Judicial Branch.

Collaborate and communicate with key stakeholders in judicial, executive, and legislative branches.

STRATEGIC OBJECTIVE 1

1 IMPROVE CITIZEN EXPERIENCE WITH GEORGIA COURTS

KEY INITIATIVES

1.1 Modernize the regulations of Court professionals

Measurable action: Monitor and assist with the update of rules and regulations regarding Court Reporters and Court Interpreters. (MT)

Measurable action: Report back to the Judicial Council. (LT)

1.2 Increase resources for public accessibility

Measurable action: Flesh out what public accessibility means. (ST)

Measurable action: Frame what it would look like to help citizens with public accessibility as defined. (MT)

1.3 Educate citizens on the use of case-related filing technology

Measurable action: Create a toolkit of existing resources citizens can access from one portal which will provide information on Court-related questions. (LT)

1.4 Develop plan for public/self-represented party accessibility to courts during crisis when physical access to courts are limited

Measurable action: Analyze access and response issues of current crisis on each class of court. Collect the data differences between the technology used in urban and rural areas of the State. (ST)

Measurable action: Create a planned response for each class of court according to technology capabilities to address public/self-represented party accessibility during crisis with limited physical access to the courts. (LT)



STRATEGIC OBJECTIVE 2

2

IMPROVE COLLABORATION AND PLANNING

KEY INITIATIVES

2.1 Foster ongoing executive and legislative branch communications and initiatives of mutual interest

Measurable action: Monitor the communication and advocacy done on behalf of the Judiciary. (ongoing)

2.2 Improve the process for data collection and data integrity

Measurable action: Create basic plan for the process of data collection to share with the various councils. (MT)

Measurable action: Share with the councils and stakeholders to obtain buy-in. (LT)

2.3 Pursue flexibility and efficiency in judicial education

Measurable action: Study the possibilities for flexibility and efficiency in judicial education across different classes of court. (MT)

Measurable action: Collaborate with ICJE to offer classes on topics requested by the Judicial Council such as sexual harassment prevention and ethics. (MT)

Measurable action: Compile and maintain a listing of all trainings sponsored or provided by the JC/AOC. (ST)

2.4 Improve technology access, support and training across all classes of courts

Measurable action: Audit/Survey technology access, support and electronic capabilities across all class of courts, including identifying video and telephone conference platforms in use by each class of court. (ST)

Measurable action: Collaborate with AOC and Councils to offer support and solutions to technology issues for courts without support or funding. (LT)

Measurable action: Create resource (bench card) of best practices and options for video and teleconferencing proceedings – Rules of Engagement. (MT)

Measurable action: Collaborate with ICJE to offer classes or online training on video conferencing particular to each class of court, including instructions on the use of video conferencing applications such as Web Ex, Zoom, Microsoft Teams. (LT)

2.5 Support all classes of Court in crisis management response taking into consideration both rural and urban areas and socio-economic factors for courts

Measurable action: Assist and support Councils for each class of court in identifying emergency functions and prioritizing other court functions that may be performed even during certain crisis situations. (LT)

Measurable action: Assist and support Councils for each class of court to create a well-defined emergency response plan. (MT)

Measurable action: Create reference guide to Pandemic issues in the Courts. (ST–MT)

STRATEGIC OBJECTIVE 3

3

PROMOTE THE WELLBEING, HEALTH, AND INTEGRITY OF THE JUDICIARY

KEY INITIATIVES

3.1 Develop a toolkit of wellness resources

Measurable action: Create a definition for “wellness” to be used when deciding which items belong in the toolkit. (ST)

Measurable action: Create the toolkit, which will be a compilation of resources to support “wellness”, possibly including State Bar resources among others. (LT)

3.2 Communicate and promote the toolkit

Measurable action: Leverage relationships with ICJE and each Council to offer training on the toolkit to each Council for one year. (LT)

Measurable action: Develop feedback survey for the trainings. (LT)

Measurable action: Encourage a “wellness” event at each Judicial Council and court meeting. (LT)

STRATEGIC OBJECTIVE 4

4

ENHANCE THE PROFESSIONAL AND ETHICAL IMAGE OF THE JUDICIARY

KEY INITIATIVES

4.1 Support judges in community engagement

Measurable action: Continue to create and gather positive stories about the judiciary. (ongoing)

Measurable action: Develop practical rules for social media engagement. (ST)

4.2 Develop a clearinghouse of resources for community engagement

Measurable action: Create the clearinghouse, which will be a compilation of existing resources members of the Judiciary can access when participating in community-facing programs. (MT)

4.3 Communicate and promote the clearinghouse

Measurable action: Set a schedule for communicating the clearinghouse; set a calendar with events to support community engagement. (LT)

TAB 1

Judicial Council of Georgia
General Session
Nathan Deal Judicial Center
April 22, 2022 • 10:00 a.m.

Members Present

Chief Justice David E. Nahmias, Chair
Justice Nels S.D Peterson (for Presiding
Justice Michael P. Boggs)
Judge JaDawnya C. Baker
Chief Judge James G. Blanchard, Jr.
Chief Judge Christopher S. Brasher
Judge Melanie B. Cross
Judge Walter W. Davis
Judge Lori B. Duff
Judge R. Violet Bennett
Ms. Elizabeth Fite
Judge Robert Flournoy, III
Judge R. Timothy Hamil
Judge Jeff Hanson (for Judge Alvin T.
Wong)
Judge Render M. Heard, Jr.
Chief Judge Asha F. Jackson
Judge Quinn M. Kasper
Judge Jeffrey H. Kight
Judge Thomas Lakes
Vice Chief Judge Amanda H. Mercier
Judge Danielle McRae (for Judge B. Shawn
Rhodes)
Judge J. Wade Padgett
Chief Judge Rebecca J. Pitts

Chief Judge C. Gregory Price
Chief Judge Brian M. Rickman
Chief Judge W. Fletcher Sams
Judge W. James Sizemore, Jr.
Judge Arthur L. Smith III
Chief Judge Sarah Wall

Staff Present

Ms. Cynthia H. Clanton
Ms. Alexis Bauman
Ms. Stephanie Hines
Ms. Cheryl Karounos
Ms. Noelle Lagueux-Alvarez
Mr. Ben Luke
Ms. Tracy Mason
Ms. Lashawn Murphy
Ms. Sahiti Namburar
Mr. Bruce Shaw
Mr. Jeffrey Thorpe
Ms. Maleia Wilson
Mr. Andrew Zoll

Guests (Appended)

Call to Order and Welcome

The meeting of the Judicial Council of Georgia (Council) was called to order at 10:00 a.m. by Chief Justice Nahmias. He welcomed members and invited guests to the Nathan Deal Judicial Center, describing it as a true symbol of the importance of the rule of law and the judicial branch of the state of Georgia. Noting a few housekeeping items, he asked guests to sign in at the table in the front lobby or to submit their attendance via email for the purpose of the minutes and reminded everyone the meeting would be recorded, livestreamed, and open to the press and public. Chief Justice Nahmias shared that several members were unable to attend in person but had designated

proxies¹. Chief Justice Nahmias also welcomed several special guests including Judge Jay Stewart, incoming Administrative Judge for the First Judicial Administrative District; Judge Shakara Barnes from the Office of the State Administrative Hearings; and Sally Akins, President-Elect of the State Bar. He reminded members that there would be a photo opportunity at the conclusion of the meeting, followed by tours of the building. Moving clockwise around the room, members and guests introduced themselves, and Ms. Clanton recorded attendance. Chief Justice Nahmias called on Chief Judge Price to lead The Pledge of Allegiance.

Approval of Minutes

Chief Justice Nahmias directed the Council's attention to the minutes of the Emergency Session of January 7, 2022, and the General Session of February 11, 2022. A motion to approve the minutes of both sessions was offered by Judge Kasper followed by a second from Chief Judge Brasher. No discussion was offered, and the motion was approved without opposition.

Committee Reports

American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) Funding Committee. Vice Chief Judge Mercier referred members to the report provided in the materials. She highlighted that the application period for CY 2022 Cycle Three funding occurred from April 1, 2022, through April 15, 2022, and screening and legal review were currently underway. Vice Chief Judge Mercier also noted that the Committee is scheduled to meet on Friday, May 13, 2022, to make award decisions for funding and expenses effective June 1, 2022. Awards will be announced following the meeting. The Committee will meet in August to discuss administrative matters and the application period for CY 2023 will begin in September for funding effective January 1, 2023.

Chief Justice Nahmias assured members that, while there had been some frustration with the program, particularly around the reimbursement process, Presiding Justice Boggs and Judicial Council/Administrative Office of the Courts (JC/AOC) staff have spent an inordinate amount of time coordinating with the Governor's Office of Planning and Budget and resolving problems and delays. He provided a status report on reimbursements submitted. Chief Justice Nahmias asked members to remain apprised of the Committee's FAQs, which are being utilized to communicate and clarify any required documentation, allowable reimbursement expenditures, and other information. The Chief Justice stressed the importance utilizing the funds and clearing out

¹ See Members Present on page 1.

backlogs, especially since the ability to toll statutory speedy trial deadlines will expire in June 2023. He thanked the Committee for their work.

Budget Committee. Justice Bethel referred members to the written report provided in the materials. He noted that Chairman Terry England of the House Appropriations Committee has announced he is not standing for reelection and thanked him for his longstanding service to the State. In the AFY 2022 budget, Justice Bethel shared, all requests made by the Judicial Council were for restoration and all were funded, as were all the requested enhancements for FY 2023. He highlighted the increase to the Kinship Care Grant, noting the program is now fully funded. He also mentioned the cost-of-living adjustment for State employees.

Justice Bethel concluded his report by sharing that the Standing Committee on Budget will accept white papers for the AFY 2023 and FY 2024 budget cycles from May 3 through June 15. Chief Justice Nahmias added his thanks to the General Assembly, particularly to Chairman England, Chairman Tillery, and the Appropriations subcommittees.

Legislation Committee. Justice Bethel (in Presiding Justice Boggs' absence) referred members to the Committee's written report provided in the materials. He highlighted the passage of HB 916 (Superior & State Court Appellate Practice Act), sponsored by Representative Rob Leverett and Senator John Kennedy. He also noted the creation of new superior court judgeships in the following judicial circuits, as recommended by the Judicial Council: Blue Ridge (HB 56), South Georgia (HB 624), and the Mountain (SB 395). Justice Bethel expressed his sincere thanks to the legislature for their assistance in that initiative, also noting thanks to all the judges and staff that participated in this year's legislative process. The Committee will begin the process of preparing for the 2023 legislative session in mid-May.

Judicial Workload Assessment Committee. Chief Judge Leonard referred members to the written report provided in the materials. Four action items were submitted to the Council for approval. The first item recommends updates to the Judicial Council Policy on the Study of Superior Court Judgeships and Circuit Boundary Studies. The recommendations, as fully detailed in the Committee's written report, seek to clarify that 1) feasibility studies, not recommendations, are conducted when a circuit boundary study is requested, and 2) more elaborate notice be given to all judges within the affected circuits upon request for a circuit boundary study. The second item updates the Juvenile Caseload Reporting Form under the "Case Characteristics" section (the addition of a fillable space to record case entries filed for the number of juveniles), and the third

item includes updates to the juvenile case count definitions in the Georgia Court Guide to Statistical Reporting. The fourth item is an update to the Civil and Domestic Relations Case Filing Form, to reflect a new Modification of Custody section under Domestic Relations, to reflect the Judicial Council's action at the February 2022 General Session.

Chief Justice Nahmias thanked Chief Judge Leonard for the report and noted that the recommendations from the Judicial Workload Assessment Committee would serve as a motion to approve the four proposals. No discussion was offered by members, and the motion carried without opposition. Chief Judge Leonard thanked members and expressed his appreciation to all who have participated in the Time and Motion Study. Participation increased to about 70 percent and focus groups would be commencing soon.

Technology Committee. Judge Kelley referred members to the written report provided in the materials. He summarized reports from the Gateway Sub-Committee and the Rules Committee, and highlighted the Automated Data Collection project and the work on standardization of file format. The Committee will also begin looking at statewide technology education for the courts and redesign of the Georgia Judicial Gateway.

Judicial COVID-19 Task Force. Justice LaGrua thanked Chief Justice Nahmias for continuing the Judicial COVID-19 Task Force and recognized the members of the Task Force for their dedication to keeping the judicial system as operational as possible throughout the pandemic. Justice LaGrua reported that working groups have been revising the 2018 Pandemic Bench Guide by integrating and updating the information from the COVID-19 Task Force Report. The working groups will be providing their revised sections for compilation and integration over the next several weeks. She concluded her report by inviting Council members to submit potential ideas or revisions regarding the Pandemic Bench Guide to herself or to Chief Judge Russ McClelland.

Strategic Plan Committee. Council members were directed to the written report provided in the materials.

Report from the Judicial Council/AOC

Ms. Clanton delivered a report on behalf of the JC/AOC. She opened by recognizing this as Chief Justice Nahmias' last Judicial Council meeting and extended her warmest congratulations on his retirement from the bench. She followed with congratulations to Presiding Justice Boggs and Justice Peterson, as incoming Council Chair and Vice-Chair effective July 18, 2022. Ms. Clanton reported on the *Justice Counts* national initiative, the passage of HB 916, the work of the

Ad Hoc Committee on American Rescue Plan Act Funding, the Judicial COVID-19 Task Force, and the new Ad Hoc Committee on Judicial Emergency Preparedness.

Ms. Clanton highlighted the JC/AOC's celebration of both Black History Month and Women's History Month, community engagement projects which enhanced the professional and ethical image of the Georgia judiciary. As part of the ongoing community engagement and civics education efforts, the JC/AOC collected 173 entries from Georgia K-12 students for the Council's Annual Law Day art contest. Ms. Clanton directed members to the voting ballot included in their meeting packet by which they could select their top choices. Ms. Clanton reported that the JC/AOC again co-sponsored the Georgia Bar, Media, and Judiciary Conference in February 2022. She extended a sincere thanks to Fulton County Magistrate Court Judge Elizabeth Emmanuel for speaking at the February 2022 AOC staff meeting, Court of Appeals Judge Pinson for speaking at the March meeting, and Fulton County Superior Court Judge Ural Glanville for speaking at the April meeting.

Ms. Clanton closed her remarks by reiterating the AOC's role as a service agency to the judiciary, and she thanked Chief Justice Nahmias and members of the Council for their continued support and guidance.

Reports from Courts, Councils, & State Bar

Supreme Court. Members were directed to the written report provided in the materials.

Court of Appeals. Chief Judge Rickman directed members to the written report provided in the materials. He thanked the trial courts for all they are doing to clear case backlogs and extended his heartfelt thanks to Chief Justice Nahmias for his service.

State-wide Business Court. Judge Davis reported the Business Court successfully held its first jury trial and extended his gratitude to all involved for their support and flexibility throughout the process.

Council of Superior Court Judges. Judge Padgett referred members to the written report provided in the materials. He thanked Chief Justice Nahmias for his leadership.

Council of State Court Judges. Judge Bennett referred members to the written report provided in the materials and thanked Chief Justice Nahmias for his service.

Council of Juvenile Court Judges. Chief Judge Price referred members to the written report provided in the materials and thanked Chief Justice Nahmias for his service.

Council of Probate Court Judges. Judge Lakes referred members to the written report provided in the materials. He thanked Chief Justice Nahmias for the example set in both his professional and personal life and wished him well.

Council of Magistrate Court Judges. Judge Kasper referred members to the written report provided in the materials. She expressed her thanks to Chief Justice Nahmias for what he has done in service to the State.

Council of Municipal Court Judges. Judge Duff referred members to the written report provided in the materials. She thanked Chief Justice Nahmias for his service and extended her thanks to the JC/AOC staff and Ms. Clanton for the continued support.

State Bar. President Fite reported that the State Bar's Board of Governors met on April 2, 2022, in Athens, Georgia and voted to institute \$6 dues increase. Although the Bar has recently attempted to limit costs as much as possible, due to inflation and the rising cost of labor, the increase is necessitated. She noted the passage of several of the State Bar's legislative priorities, including HB 752 (The Advanced Psychiatric Directive Act) and HB 916. President Fite highlighted the Bar's attorney mental wellness efforts and shared that, during the April Board of Governor's meeting, she spoke to the recent attorney suicides in the state over the past two years and asked Bar members and leaders to think of ways in which they can be engaged and connected with each other. She extended that same challenge to the Council members and encouraged the utilization of the resources the Bar provides, such as the six free counseling session and the Lawyer Assistance Program. She reported that current Bar Executive Director Damon Elmore is acting as interim ICLE director and invited Council members to attend the Bar's Annual Meeting which will take place June 2 through June 5, 2022. At that meeting, incoming President Sally Akins of Savannah will be sworn into office. President Fite shared that it had been a pleasure to work with each of the Council members and JC/AOC staff over the past two years and wished the Chief Justice well. Chief Justice Nahmias thanked President Fite for her report and reiterated her remarks on the importance of mental wellness.

Reports from Other Judicial Branch Agencies

Council of Accountability Court Judges. Ms. Taylor Jones referred members to the written report provided in the materials. She thanked the JC/AOC staff and the Criminal Justice Coordinating Council for their continued partnerships to make Georgia's accountability courts successful.

Georgia Commission on Dispute Resolution. Ms. Johnson referred members to the written report provided in the materials.

Council of Superior Court Clerks. Mr. Holiman reported that with the passage of SB 441, the Criminal Case Data Exchange Board will be reconstituted as an advisory board to the Council of Superior Court Clerks. The Council is directed with creating rules for criminal data exchange, in cooperation with the Criminal Case Data Exchange Board, that will apply statewide. Mr. Holiman reported the team is working diligently and a more detailed update would be provided in the coming months.

Chief Justice's Commission on Professionalism. Ms. Grier referred members to the written report provided in the materials. She thanked Chief Justice Nahmias for not only his leadership as chairman of the Commission on Professionalism, but also for his work with the Supreme Court's Committee on Justice for Children.

Georgia Council of Court Administrators. Ms. Ansley reported the Council of Court Administrators recently held its first educational conference in over two years, with plans for an upcoming fall conference celebrating 25 years of service.

Institute of Continuing Judicial Education. Ms. Nelson referred members to the written report provided in the materials. Chief Justice Nahmias expressed his thanks for the ongoing work of ICJE, noting it is crucial to ensuring confidence in the integrity and ethics of judges in Georgia.

Judicial Qualifications Commission. Members were referred to the written report provided in the materials. Chief Justice Nahmias highlighted the inclusion of the Commission's annual report and its newly updated website. He also shared that the Supreme Court's website was recently updated with a tab dedicated solely to Judicial Qualifications Commission matters, where publicly accessible documents regarding formal complaints will be posted. Inquiries about Judicial Qualifications Commission matters are the Court's most common document request so this feature will promote transparency and be useful to the public.

Old Business

No old business was offered.

New Business

No new business was offered.

Recognition of Outgoing Members

Chief Justice Nahmias recognized the following outgoing members for their service on the Judicial Council: Judge Padgett, Judge Kight, Chief Judge Blanchard, Judge Wong (accepted by Judge Bennett), Chief Judge Price, Judge Lakes, Chief Judge Kasper, Judge Duff, and President Fite.

Special Presentation

Justice Peterson recognized the longstanding service of Chief Justice Nahmias and expressed his gratitude for the unparalleled leadership demonstrated over the years. Ms. Clanton presented Chief Justice Nahmias with a framed plaque on behalf of the Council. Chief Justice Nahmias thanked everyone for their kind words and shared that it had been his pleasure to work with such a wonderful team throughout the years.

Adjournment

Chief Justice Nahmias closed by thanking Council members for their continued service to the judiciary and to the JC/AOC. He reminded members the next General Session will be held on Friday, August 12, 2022, at the Classic Center in Athens, Georgia. This, he shared, will be Justice Boggs' first meeting as Chief Justice and Justice Peterson's first as Presiding Justice. Chief Justice Nahmias closed with directions for a photo that would immediately follow and adjourned the meeting at approximately 11:30 a.m.

Respectfully submitted:

Tracy Mason
Senior Assistant Director, Judicial Council/AOC
For Cynthia H. Clanton, Director and Secretary

The above and foregoing minutes
were approved on the _____ day of

_____, 2022.

Michael P. Boggs
Chief Justice

Judicial Council of Georgia
General Session
Nathan Deal Judicial Center
April 22, 2022 • 10:00 a.m.

Guests Present

Ms. Sally Akins, State Bar of Georgia
Ms. Lynn Ansley, Georgia Council of Court Administrators
Judge Shakara Barnes, Georgia Office of State Administrative Hearings
Alex Beato, Prosecuting Attorneys' Council of Georgia
Mr. Josh Becker, Council of Accountability Court Judges
Justice Charles J. Bethel, Supreme Court of Georgia
Mr. Bob Bray, Council of State Court Judges
Ms. Angie Davis, Georgia State-wide Business Court
Mr. Richard Denney, First Judicial Administrative District
Ms. Karlise Grier, Chief Justice's Commission on Professionalism
Ms. Christine Butcher Hayes, State Bar of Georgia
Mr. Kevin Holder, Council of Probate Court Judges
Mr. Michael Holiman, Council of Superior Court Clerks
Mr. Eric John, Council of Juvenile Court Judges
Ms. Tracy Johnson, Georgia Office of Dispute Resolution
Ms. Taylor Jones, Council of Accountability Court Judges
Ms. Kathleen Joyner, Supreme Court of Georgia
Judge Stephen D. Kelley, Superior Court, Brunswick Judicial Circuit
Chief Judge Robert D. Leonard, Superior Court, Cobb Judicial Circuit
Chief Judge T. Russell McClelland, State Court of Forsyth County
Mr. Ben McMichael, Prosecuting Attorneys' Council of Georgia
Mr. David Mixon, Second Judicial Administrative District
Mr. Jay Neal, Criminal Justice Coordinating Council
Ms. Lynn Moore Nelson, Institute of Continuing Judicial Education
Ms. Debra Nesbit, Council of Superior Court Judges
Ms. Jody Overcash, Seventh Judicial Administrative District
Ms. Sharon Reiss, Council of Magistrate Court Judges
Ms. Karlie Sahs, Georgia Office of Dispute Resolution
Ms. Christina Smith, Court of Appeals of Georgia
Mr. Robert Smith, Prosecuting Attorneys' Council of Georgia
Ms. LaQuetta Walker, Georgia Court Reporters Association
Ms. Kirsten Wallace, Council of Juvenile Court Judges
Ms. Emily Youngo, Supreme Court of Georgia

TAB 2



Judicial Council of Georgia Administrative Office of the Courts

Chief Justice Michael P. Boggs
Chair

Cynthia H. Clanton
Director

Memorandum

TO: Judicial Council Members

FROM: Chief Justice Michael P. Boggs
Chair, Ad Hoc Committee on American Rescue Plan Act Funding

RE: Committee Report

DATE: August 4, 2022

On April 25, 2022, the Committee deemed professional dues, continuing education, and training expenditures as eligible expenses under the Judicial Branch ARPA Funding grant program. The Committee had previously categorized these as ineligible expenses based on prior guidance from the Governor's Office of Planning and Budget (OPB), but following discussions with the Prosecuting Attorneys' Council and approval by OPB, the Committee reversed its decision.

The Committee last met on May 13, 2022, to consider applications and make award decisions for circuits that applied during the April 2022 (CY 2022) application period. At this meeting, the Committee awarded over \$2.9 million in grant funding to nine judicial circuits, one of which was a first-time applicant and eight of which applied for additional funds to amend existing awards. Subsequently, the Committee awarded an additional \$236,068 to the Douglas Judicial Circuit, following the submission of a revised application. These awards were effective June 1, 2022, and this completed the funding opportunities through the Judicial Council program for CY 2022.

Overall, in CY 2022, the Committee awarded grants to 42 of the 50 judicial circuits in Georgia, for a total of \$44,147,105. This represents 45.98 percent of the total \$96 million allocated to the judicial branch. A complete list of grant awards is attached.

The AOC ARPA Fiscal Team is working closely with circuits on the reimbursement process. As of Friday, July 29, a total of \$2,289,998 has been reimbursed to circuits.

The Committee will meet on Friday, August 26, to finalize preparation for Year Two of the program (CY 2023). Among other items, the Committee is expected to discuss the status of circuit grant plans, impediments to plan implementation, the status of county and municipal ARPA fund contributions, circuit needs beyond current program restrictions, the Council-implemented award cap, and data collection including the status of serious violent felony and other case backlogs.

Applications for CY 2023 funding will be accepted from September 15 through September 30, and a new, updated application requesting additional data is expected to be in place prior to that period. Screening and legal review will take place following the close of the application period, and the Committee will meet on Friday, November 4, to make award decisions for funding and expenses effective January 1, 2023. Awards will be announced following the meeting.

Grant documents, including the Grant Application and Frequently Asked Questions, will continue to be updated as new information and guidance are received. All grantees and applicants are encouraged to visit the website (<https://jcaoc.georgiacourts.gov/arpa/>) regularly for the most up-to-date information.

Please send any questions to the ARPA Grants Team at arpa@georgiacourts.gov.

Judicial Council of Georgia
Ad Hoc Committee on American Rescue Plan Act Funding – CY 2022 Awards
May 25, 2022

Circuit	Cycle 1 Award Amounts	Cycle 2 Award Amounts	Cycle 2a Award Amounts	Cycle 3 Grant Requests	Cycle 3 Award Amounts	Cycle 3a Grant Requests	Cycle 3a Award Amounts	Cumulative Awards
<i>*Budget as Approved by Committee</i>								
	\$ 24,788,470	\$ 15,287,317	\$ 860,230	\$ 3,076,093	\$ 2,975,020	\$ 236,068	\$ 236,068	\$ 44,147,105
Alapaha	\$ 325,332	\$ -						\$ 325,332
Alcovy	\$ 322,863	\$ 185,000						\$ 507,863
Appalachian	\$ 2,000,000	\$ -						\$ 2,000,000
Atlanta	\$ -	\$ -						\$ -
Atlantic	\$ 516,837	\$ 582,199		\$ 370,791	\$ 370,791			\$ 1,469,827
Augusta	\$ 2,000,000	\$ -						\$ 2,000,000
Bell-Forsyth	\$ -	\$ 693,298						\$ 693,298
Blue Ridge	\$ 52,200	\$ -		\$ 69,892	\$ 69,892			\$ 122,092
Brunswick	\$ 847,194	\$ -						\$ 847,194
Chattahoochee	\$ 2,000,000	\$ -						\$ 2,000,000
Cherokee	\$ -	\$ 756,567						\$ 756,567
Clayton	\$ -	\$ -						\$ -
Cobb	\$ -	\$ 1,999,690						\$ 1,999,690
Columbia	\$ 874,024	\$ 160,286						\$ 1,034,310
Conasauga	\$ -	\$ -						\$ -
Cordele	\$ -	\$ -						\$ -
Coweta	\$ -	\$ 1,983,773		\$ 12,000	\$ 12,000			\$ 1,995,773
Dougherty	\$ 2,000,000	\$ -						\$ 2,000,000
Douglas <i>Revised Cycle 3 application reconsidered by Committee</i>	\$ 741,510	\$ -		\$ 101,073	\$ -	\$ 236,068	\$ 236,068	\$ 977,578
Dublin	\$ -	\$ 587,571		\$ 27,048	\$ 27,048			\$ 614,619
Eastern	\$ -	\$ -						\$ -
Enotah	\$ 2,000,000	\$ -						\$ 2,000,000
Flint <i>Cycles 1 & 3 applications withdrawn</i>	\$ -	\$ -		\$ -				\$ -
Griffin	\$ -	\$ 789,969		\$ 77,668	\$ 77,668			\$ 867,637
Gwinnett	\$ -	\$ -		\$ 2,000,000	\$ 2,000,000			\$ 2,000,000
Houston	\$ 142,113	\$ -						\$ 142,113
Lookout Mountain	\$ -	\$ 312,171						\$ 312,171
Macon	\$ 977,026	\$ -		\$ 259,900	\$ 259,900			\$ 1,236,926
Middle Mountain	\$ -	\$ 548,442						\$ 548,442
Mountain	\$ 446,163	\$ -						\$ 446,163
Northeastern	\$ 1,081,610	\$ 598,887						\$ 1,680,497
Northern	\$ 560,879	\$ 46,500						\$ 607,379
Ocmulgee	\$ 161,730	\$ 700,294						\$ 862,024
Oconee	\$ -	\$ 384,093						\$ 384,093
Ogeechee	\$ 1,825,348	\$ -						\$ 1,825,348
Pataula	\$ -	\$ -						\$ -
Paulding	\$ 1,316,226	\$ -						\$ 1,316,226
Piedmont	\$ 13,280	\$ -		\$ 41,250	\$ 41,250			\$ 54,530
Rockdale	\$ -	\$ 1,968,000						\$ 1,968,000
Rome	\$ -	\$ 574,790						\$ 574,790
South Georgia	\$ -	\$ 183,348						\$ 183,348
Southern	\$ -	\$ -						\$ -
Southwestern	\$ 638,041	\$ 4,000						\$ 642,041
Stone Mountain	\$ 2,000,000	\$ -						\$ 2,000,000
Tallapoosa	\$ -	\$ 0.00	\$ 860,230					\$ 860,230
Tifton	\$ -	\$ 440,161						\$ 440,161
Toombs	\$ 346,010	\$ 121,700		\$ 116,471	\$ 116,471			\$ 584,181
Towaliga	\$ 627,399	\$ -						\$ 627,399
Waycross	\$ 972,685	\$ -						\$ 972,685
Western	\$ -	\$ 1,666,578						\$ 1,666,578
	\$ 24,788,470 ¹	\$ 15,287,317	\$ 860,230	\$ 3,076,093	\$ 2,975,020	\$ 236,068	\$ 236,068	\$ 44,147,105

¹: The Cycle 1 award amount was initially \$24,806,522, but was subsequently amended to reflect adjustments to the awards for the Alcovy and Southwestern Judicial Circuits.

Note: All reported amounts are subject to change based on grant awards that were made conditionally pending pre-approval of select items by the Governor's Office of Planning and Budget., subsequent changes to eligible expenses by OPB and/or the Committee, or based on other Committee adjustments.

TAB 3



Judicial Council of Georgia

Administrative Office of the Courts

Chief Justice Michael P. Boggs
Chair

Cynthia H. Clanton
Director

Memorandum

TO: Judicial Council Members

FROM: Justice Charles J. Bethel, Chair
Standing Committee on Budget

RE: Judicial Council Budget and Financial Report

DATE: July 27, 2022

This report will provide an update on the Judicial Council's Fiscal Year 2022 budget and the Amended Fiscal Year 2023 and Fiscal Year 2024 enhancement requests.

Fiscal Year 2022 Judicial Council Budget and Financial Report

The Fiscal Year 2022 budget closed on July 22, 2022. The Judicial Council Fiscal Year 2022 Financial Report is attached.

Amended Fiscal Year 2023 and Fiscal Year 2024 Judicial Council Enhancement Requests

The Judicial Council Standing Committee on Budget met on July 20, 2022, to consider Amended Fiscal Year 2023 and Fiscal Year 2024 enhancement requests. The White Paper for each enhancement request is attached.

Amended Fiscal Year 2023 (AFY23) Enhancement Requests:

- The Judicial Council Joint Subcommittee on Automated Data Collection submitted an enhancement request for \$70,000 for the Automated Data Collection Project. The Project is aimed at expanding the quality, reliability, and volume of data collected from the Courts.
- The Institute of Continuing Judicial Education (ICJE) submitted an enhancement request for \$71,377 for a salary adjustment request and for operational funds. The

request would provide a \$5,000 COLA for the ICJE employee approved in the FY23 Budget, as well as providing state funding for the ICJE operational budget.

If the two enhancement requests totaling \$141,377 are approved, the Judicial Council budget will increase from \$19,248,576 to \$19,389,953. This would represent a 0.73% increase to the Judicial Council's budget.

Fiscal Year 2024 (FY24) Enhancement Requests:

- The Judicial Council Joint Subcommittee on Automated Data Collection submitted an enhancement request for \$20,000 for the Automated Data Collection Project. This request will cover the on-going operational costs associated with the project.
- The Institute of Continuing Judicial Education submitted an enhancement request for \$156,280 for a salary adjustment and to provide state funding for the Institute's operational funding. The request would provide a \$5,000 COLA for the ICJE employee approved in the FY23 Budget, as well as fully funding ICJE's operational budget with state funds in place of administrative fees charged to clients.
- The Administrative Office of the Courts submitted an enhancement request for \$228,924 for one policy counsel position and one policy coordinator position:
 - The Policy Counsel position would primarily be tasked with leading the necessary research and policy development associated with the Judicial Council's many Committees.
 - The Policy Coordinator position would provide invaluable logistical and project management support to the AOC to manage the work of the Judicial Council's many Committees.
- The Standing Committee on Access to Justice submitted an enhancement request for \$500,000 to create a grant program for Legal Self-Help Centers. If approved, the Judicial Council Standing Committee on Grants would manage the allocation of funds to qualifying Self-Help Centers across the State.
- The Supreme Court Committee on Justice for Children submitted an enhancement request for \$619,000 for grants for civil legal services to families of indigent patients. If approved, The Judicial Council Standing Committee on Grants would manage the allocation of grants to qualifying medical-legal partnerships across the State.

- The Council of Accountability Court Judges submitted an enhancement request for \$97,331 for a Medication-Assisted Treatment (MAT) Statewide Coordinator position. This position is currently grant funded, this enhancement would ensure the MAT Coordinator can continue to develop and guide the implementation of MAT services to accountability courts throughout Georgia.

If the six enhancement requests totaling \$1,621,535 were approved, the Judicial Council Budget will increase from \$19,248,576 to \$20,870,111. This would represent an 8.42% increase to the Judicial Council's budget.

Attachments:

FY2022 Judicial Council Budget and Financial Report

White Papers for AFY23:

Automated Data Collection Project

Institute of Continuing Judicial Education

White Papers for FY24:

Administrative Office of the Courts

Legal Self-Help Centers

Civil Legal Services for Families of Indigent Patients

Council of Accountability Court Judges

AFY23 and FY24 Budget Comparison Reports

Fiscal Year 2022 - Judicial Council Operations
June 30, 2022

Department	FY 2022 Budget	YTD Expenditures	Remaining
Administrative Office of The Courts	\$ 7,958,623	\$ 7,904,763	\$ 53,860
Legal Services for Domestic Violence	\$ 1,677,172	\$ 1,677,172	\$ -
Georgia Council of Court Administrators	\$ 16,389	\$ 16,389	\$ -
Council of Municipal Court Judges	\$ 13,919	\$ 13,509	\$ 410
Child Support Collaborative	\$ 146,838	\$ 146,838	\$ (0)
Accountability Courts	\$ 2,242	\$ 2,242	\$ -
Council of Magistrate Court Judges	\$ 199,259	\$ 198,457	\$ 802
Council of Probate Court Judges	\$ 191,692	\$ 191,351	\$ 341
Council of State Court Judges	\$ 466,628	\$ 475,396	\$ (8,768)
Council of State Court Judges Ret.	\$ 2,388,814	\$ 1,510,230	\$ 878,584
Legal Services for Kinship Care Families	\$ 475,326	\$ 475,326	\$ -
Other Judicial Council Subprograms	\$ 5,578,279	\$ 4,706,912	\$ 871,368
Accountability Courts	\$ 652,631	\$ 644,515	\$ 8,116
CACJ-Peer Review Process	\$ 66,594	\$ 60,481	\$ 6,113
GA Office of Dispute Resolution	\$ 8,074	\$ 8,074	\$ 0
Inst of Continuing Jud Ed Administration	\$ 585,354	\$ 585,354	\$ -
Judicial Qualifications Commission	\$ 1,084,421	\$ 1,083,450	\$ 971
Resource Center	\$ 775,000	\$ 775,000	\$ -
Separate Judicial Council Programs	\$ 3,172,074	\$ 3,156,874	\$ 15,200
TOTAL JUDICIAL COUNCIL	\$ 16,708,976	\$ 15,768,549	\$ 940,427



JUDICIAL COUNCIL OF GEORGIA FY 2023 AMENDED REQUEST FORM FY 2024 ENHANCEMENT REQUEST FORM

REQUEST SUMMARY:

For use as talking points during conversations with funding and policy-making bodies to include the Judicial Council, General Assembly, and Office of the Governor.

1. Which Program is requesting this Enhancement? The Judicial Council Joint Subcommittee on Automated Data Collection
2. Enhancement Name/Descriptor: The Georgia Courts Automated Data Collection Project

FISCAL YEAR	Current state funds received	Amount Requesting	If granted, a new state funding level
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Amended FY 2023	\$0	\$ 70,000.00	\$ 70,000
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> FY 2024	\$0	\$ 20,000	\$ 20,000

3. What will the enhancement accomplish?

The Georgia Courts Automated Data Collection Project will aid the AOC's Office of Research and Data Collection (ORDA) in its efforts to collect granular case data – approximately 15x the volume of current data collected – and at an increased frequency. Data will be more current in comparison to the existing annual court data collection period which is comprised of the prior year's data. The goal is to help local courts automate the annual case count process while also adding various data elements to expand the amount of local data for query and analysis.

Access to this level of case data is a matter of public safety, trust and confidence. Such data could greatly influence future policy and funding decisions by the legislature and local government entities. With increased data, the AOC is able to contextualize it for further analysis by law enforcement and other interested groups.

Lastly, Georgia is poised to be a leader in the national initiative Justice Counts, a consensus-building initiative of the U.S. Department of Justice's Office of Justice Programs' Bureau of Justice Assistance led by The Council of State Governments (CSG) Justice Center and an unprecedented coalition of 21 partner organizations representing wide-ranging expertise across the criminal justice field. Chief Justice Boggs leads this effort, and we want to support and fulfill the promise of good and consistent data and track the metrics which come from the data. Such metrics include, but are not limited to, pretrial data, equity, supervision, prosecution, and case dispositions. Mapping brings an opportunity for increased and reliable data.

4. What is unable to be accomplished without the enhancement?



JUDICIAL COUNCIL OF GEORGIA FY 2023 AMENDED REQUEST FORM FY 2024 ENHANCEMENT REQUEST FORM

The AOC/Office of Research and Data Analysis will not be able to provide current year case count data when responding to legislative requests and other related inquiries from stakeholders and the public. Instead, metrics utilizing a limited set of case count data, from the prior year, will be analyzed and reported. And such data is generally limited to just the number of filings and number of dispositions with a scattering of a few other data points that vary across case type. The absence of additional data elements will render the AOC unable to support and equip local courts with obtaining better data to satisfy their infrastructure and personnel needs including being able to measure court performance.

5. Does the enhancement include salaried staff and/or operations, which includes contractors?
- Salaried staff
 - Operating Funds (includes contractors)



JUDICIAL COUNCIL OF GEORGIA

FY 2023 AMENDED REQUEST FORM

FY 2024 ENHANCEMENT REQUEST FORM

Budget Categories	FY 23 Amended Request	FY 24 Enhancement Request
Personnel Services:	\$ -	\$ -
Operating Costs:		
Postage	\$ -	\$ -
Motor Vehicle Expenses	\$ -	\$ -
Printing, Publications, Media	\$ -	\$ -
Supplies and Materials	\$ -	\$ -
Repairs and Maintenance	\$ -	\$ -
Equipment < \$5,000	\$ -	\$ -
Water/Sewage	\$ -	\$ -
Energy	\$ -	\$ -
Rents Other Than Real Estate	\$ -	\$ -
Insurance and Bonding	\$ -	\$ -
Freight	\$ -	\$ -
Other Operating	\$ -	\$ -
Travel – Employee	\$ -	\$ -
Real Estate Rentals	\$ -	\$ -
Professional Services (Per Diem)	\$ -	\$ -
Professional Services (Expenses)	\$ -	\$ -
Other Contractual Services (Non State)	\$ 20,000	\$ 20,000
Contracts – State Orgs	\$ -	\$ -
IT Expenses	\$ 50,000	\$ -
Voice/Data Communications	\$ -	\$ -
Grants	\$ -	\$ -
Indirect Costs	\$ -	\$ -
Transfers	\$ -	\$ -
Total Operating Budget	\$ -	\$ 20,000
TOTAL OVERALL BUDGET		
	\$ 70,000	\$ 20,000
State Funds	\$70,000	\$20,000
Other Budgeted Funds	-	-



JUDICIAL COUNCIL OF GEORGIA FY 2023 AMENDED REQUEST FORM FY 2024 ENHANCEMENT REQUEST FORM

Which Program is requesting this Enhancement?
The Judicial Council Subcommittee of Automated Data Collection
Judicial Council - Administrative Office of the Courts

Part 1 – Detailed Explanation of Request

1. Proposal:

The Judicial Council Joint Subcommittee of Automated Data Collections seeks to greatly expand the quality, reliability, and volume of data collected from courts. This effort is modeled in conjunction with the National Center for State Courts' National Open Data Standards (NODS) Project. The NODS project is a call for more comprehensive data for all states. Georgia's judiciary has reviewed the data elements and believe that the successful implementation of this project will greatly help answer several questions that have been asked by judges, administrators, and policymakers. The implementation is a multi-year, collaborative project lead by the Joint Subcommittee Automation Data Collection and staffed by the Office of Research and Data Analysis. The project will also support Georgia's participation in the national Justice Counts effort led by the Council of State Government's Justice Center.

2. Geographic Impact: Where does the request impact the state?

Statewide or list counties below:

3. Current Status:

a. What is the budget unit currently doing to address this issue?

Currently, an annual case count collection process is in effect. By mid-March of each year, the clerk of each class of court uploads data from their court's case management system that generally includes the number of civil and criminal case filings, case descriptions, and case dispositions. Much of that data is produced by pulling information from multiple local data reports or even hand counting by local clerks.

b. Will those activities continue if this request is funded?

Yes, the annual case count data collection efforts led by the JC/AOC Office of Research and Data Analysis will continue. However, ORDA will not be able to provide granular and timely data to the state without the funding.

4. Supporting Data:

a. Provide any supporting data, evaluations, and/or research for this request.

Requests for court data are on the rise. These requests come from the media, policy makers, researchers, law firms, parties to a case, and data aggregation companies. Unfortunately, many of those inquiries go unfulfilled as we do not collect the data or detailed information they seek. Courts also share concern over data consistency, data quality, and the potential for misinterpretation of court data once released. The development of NODS addressed these concerns by developing both



JUDICIAL COUNCIL OF GEORGIA FY 2023 AMENDED REQUEST FORM FY 2024 ENHANCEMENT REQUEST FORM

logical standards (common data definitions) and technical standards (data relationship models) for court data. Adopting standard data definitions will decrease the risk of misinterpretation of data by individuals and entities outside of the court. Courts will be able to produce valuable performance-based data to assess and enhance productivity and perform evaluations of programs and services.

NODS was created with the understanding that data are complex, and definitions and rules vary widely across and within state courts. Within the context of this variation, data standards facilitate the sharing of data, increase transparency, provide for consistency in data interpretation, allow for meaningful comparisons across data sets, and reduce the cost of producing or extracting individual data sets.

The Conference of State Court Administrators (COSCA) and the National Center for State Courts (NCSC) through the NODS developed business and technical court data standards to support the creation, sharing, and integration of court data. The Joint Technology Committee (JTC), comprised of members of COSCA, the National Association for Court Management (NACM), Court Information Technology Officers Consortium (CITOC), and NCSC identified NODS as a priority topic. Use of the NODS as the guiding process for this effort will:

- Make case-level state court data available to researchers, policymakers, the media, and the public to provide for transparency in court operations and to improve public policy;
- Make data available for public and court system use in a consistent manner that reduces the possibility of error and misinterpretation; and
- Reduce the burden on court system staff in responding to data requests.

The Justice Counts metrics provide policymakers and the public with timely, wide-ranging information on their criminal justice system that they have previously been unable to access. These metrics were developed by a national coalition of criminal justice experts across each of these sectors: law enforcement, prosecution, defense, pretrial/courts, jails, prisons, and community supervision. The metrics are designed to be:

- Simple - The metrics capture key data points while also accounting for the fact that agencies collect, define, and maintain data in different ways and that data quality may vary by agency or metric.
- Feasible - The metrics rely on data points that are commonly collected by agencies and should be easy to share. They take into account that baselines may vary across agencies and localities.
- Effective - The metrics are easy to understand and will provide data that policymakers and agency leaders can utilize in their decision-making. While the metrics will capture trends and offer agencies across the system structured guidance for sharing data that decision-makers can broadly compare and contrast, they also allow agencies to provide context behind the numbers to enable fair, accurate use of the data collected.



JUDICIAL COUNCIL OF GEORGIA FY 2023 AMENDED REQUEST FORM FY 2024 ENHANCEMENT REQUEST FORM

- b. Include information on similar successful programs or evaluations in other jurisdictions that are relevant to this request.

Georgia is part of a multi-state collaboration project led by the National Center for State Courts. Other states include Pennsylvania, Nevada, Arizona and Texas. These states, like Georgia, are non-unified in their court structure. As such, like Georgia, they have multiple jurisdictions with courts run at the local level and experience many of the same data collection issues. The collaboration effort allows the state representatives to share their efforts, successes, and challenges.

5. Performance Measures:

- a. What measures are or will be used to evaluate the impact of this change?
The JC/AOC Office of Research and Data Analysis will have the ability to run more queries, provide the requested data or metrics, and conduct comprehensive analyses of court data where automated data collection is available.
- b. If an enhancement, what is the projected cost savings or return on investment?
The return on investment is invaluable when comparing and evaluating the overall administration of justice. The enhancement will help decisionmakers understand the overall impact of the courts to the public, as well as the effectiveness and efficiencies of the courts.
- c. What efficiencies will be realized?
The ability to fully respond to research requests, will allow interested communities to glean greater insights about Georgia court filings such as the life cycle of a case from filing to disposition, the usage or need for court professional resources such as interpreters and court reporters, or assist the Judicial Council, local and state officials in making evidence-based decisions on matters impacting the courts.

6. Stakeholders & Constituents:

- a. Describe the constituent and stakeholder groups affected by this change (e.g., board members, advocates/interest groups, service providers, other agencies, other governmental entities).
Policymakers and governing authorities of the judiciary, the legislature, other state agencies and government entities such as GCIC, DDS, PAC, DHS, and Vital Records etc. that rely on the court case data, the public, the academic community, and the media are all benefactors of improved and timely automated data collection.
- b. Which are likely to support this request?
All.
- c. Which are likely to oppose this request?
None.



JUDICIAL COUNCIL OF GEORGIA FY 2023 AMENDED REQUEST FORM FY 2024 ENHANCEMENT REQUEST FORM

- d. Which have not voiced support or opposition?
None have voiced opposition.

7. Legislation or Rule Change:

- a. Is legislation or a rule change required if this request is implemented? If so, please explain.
No legislative change will be necessary for this project. However, the Judicial Council may require updates to its policy post full implementation.
- b. Is this request a result of legislation or rule change? If so, please explain.
No.

8. Alternatives:

What alternatives were considered and why are they not viable?

The only alternative to this project is to maintain the current status quo of the annual case count. In recent years, there has been a greater interest in courts backlogs brought on by the pandemic, the need for more judicial allocations, and interests in circuit boundary alterations. The limited information currently available has proven to be sufficient or incomplete when responding to legislative and judicial requests. Without the mapping expansion of data elements available through the automated data collection project, stakeholders, policymakers, and requestors will be forced to rely on more exhaustive measures such as contacting individual courts to acquire the data and metrics they seek.

Part 2 – BUDGET

9. Requested and Projected Resources:

- a. For enhancements and certain base adjustments, describe the additional resources are you requesting. **Ensure descriptions and amounts align with the budget chart on page 2.*

▪ Positions:

Only developer contractors are needed for the start-up of this project. This is a gradual approach project as we work towards full implementation. In the interim, we will rely on existing internal staff to fill any immediate needs. Therefore, no request for full-time staff is being made at this time.

▪ Operational needs:

Funding is needed for IT developer services to develop a bridge for expanding upon the existing portal so that the automated data collection transmissions can be received by the AOC from the clerks' offices.



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Additionally, funding is needed for IT operations to secure code review (a 3rd party to analyze the development work for vulnerabilities or security related deficiencies). Another \$20,000 will be needed for (AWS) infrastructure to support a web service/API, identity and access management, data warehousing (DB, NoSQL, etc.), and associated backups, controls, and tooling.

b. What are your out-year projections?

Approximately \$20,000 annually will be needed for data storage and web service support.

10. Methodology/Assumptions:

a. Provide the methodology and assumptions behind the requested amount and out-year projections.

Courts will need an endpoint or bridge to which they can securely transmit statistical and aggregate caseload data to the AOC. This endpoint will need to remain available 24/7/365 with appropriate security. Additional identity and access management will need to be addressed. The proposed plan suggests courts will initially transmit data quarterly. During this phase, there will be approximately 400 data elements collected per court, with an anticipated initial volume of approximately 1.3 million individual case elements to be transmitted. This is equivalent to 15x the current volume of information now collected, which also aligns with the National Open Data Standards.

b. How did you arrive at the amounts?

The \$70,000 in IT and other contractual services was based upon market rates for contracted web developer(s), web services, and one terabyte of data storage. The automation process is projected to collect approximately 400 data elements per court throughout the state.

c. What time period does the request cover (i.e., the number of months)?

The \$70,000 is a one-time request, with a recurring \$20,000 per year for webservices and data storage.

11. Federal and Other Funds: Describe the impact on federal and/or other funds related to this request (amount, policy, etc.).

Currently, no federal funds are received for this project. Therefore, there is no impact on federal funds. ORDA is investigating federal grants that could further support the work of the project.

Part 3 - OTHER INFORMATION

12. Discuss any historical or other relevant factors that should be considered.



JUDICIAL COUNCIL OF GEORGIA FY 2023 AMENDED REQUEST FORM FY 2024 ENHANCEMENT REQUEST FORM

REQUEST SUMMARY:

For use as talking points during conversations with funding and policy-making bodies to include the Judicial Council, General Assembly, and Office of the Governor.

1. Which Program is requesting this Enhancement?

Institute of Continuing Judicial Education

2. Enhancement Name/Descriptor:

(1) \$5,000 COLA Salary + \$2,300 Fringe Adjustment for Newly Approved FY23 Training Assistant Position and

(2) Full funding of ICJE's Operational Budget and

FISCAL YEAR	Current state funds received	Amount Requesting	If granted, a new state funding level
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Amended FY 2023	\$642,932.00	\$ 71,377.00	\$714,309.00
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> FY 2024	\$642,932.00	\$ 156,280.00	\$799,212.00

3. What will the enhancement accomplish?

SALARY ADJUSTMENT REQUEST: The COLA and fringe salary adjustment for the FY2023 newly approved Training Assistant will keep that position aligned with the 2 other Training Assistant positions that received the salary adjustment in May 2022.

FULL OPERATIONAL FUNDING REQUEST: From 2022 to 2023, our projected administrative costs increased by 10% which places an undue burden on judicial constituent groups and their members since they contribute to ICJE's shared office overhead allocation along with paying participant fees for training. Providing funding for ICJE's yearly operations will ensure that the agency, created by the Georgia Supreme Court in 1976, remains fully funded and able to support the State's judicial branch with quality and innovative training opportunities. Since FY2009, ICJE has experienced a 49% decrease in State funding which has challenged the ongoing administrative services provided by ICJE and its staff. ICJE provides professional education opportunities for the Judicial Branch that ensures the fair, effective, and efficient administration of justice, and is a vital component in achieving the plan and priorities of the Judicial Council. Members of the judiciary pay significant training registration fees and their Councils are charged a shared overhead allocation to ICJE. The reduction of the shared allocation fee to Councils will allow them to direct their training funding to support specialized training with possibly national judicial trainers.

4. What is unable to be accomplished without the enhancement?



JUDICIAL COUNCIL OF GEORGIA FY 2023 AMENDED REQUEST FORM FY 2024 ENHANCEMENT REQUEST FORM

SALARY ADJUSTMENT REQUEST: Failure to pay the newly approved Training Assistant the same as the 2 other similarly situated Training Assistants will make it challenging to recruit and retain qualified candidates for the position.

FULL OPERATIONAL FUNDING REQUEST: Over the last 15 years, ICJE's state-appropriated funding has reduced by 49% while its number of constituents has increased by 25%; plus, ICJE has additional reporting duties per Uniform Superior Court Rule 43.6 which makes ICJE the repository for Superior Court training, increased complexity of Continuing Judicial Education (CJE) regulations requiring staff monitoring, and increased use of technology by ICJE staff to support its constituents. Without the enhancement, ICJE lacks the support to identify and administer innovative and quality educational programming to the State's judiciary members and staff.

5. Does the enhancement include salaried staff and/or operations, which includes contractors?
- Salaried staff
 - Operating Funds (includes contractors)



**JUDICIAL COUNCIL OF GEORGIA
 FY 2023 AMENDED REQUEST FORM
 FY 2024 ENHANCEMENT REQUEST FORM**

Budget Categories	FY 23 Amended Request	FY 24 Enhancement Request
Personnel Services: (incl. sal&fringe)	\$ 7,300.00	\$ 7,300.00
Operating Costs:		
Postage	\$ 150.00	\$ 150.00
Motor Vehicle Expenses	\$ -	\$ -
Printing, Publications, Media	\$ -	\$ 5,000.00
Supplies and Materials	\$ 5,500.00	\$ 5,500.00
Repairs and Maintenance	\$ -	\$ -
Equipment < \$5,000	\$ -	\$ -
Water/Sewage	\$ -	\$ -
Energy	\$ 3,500.00	\$ 3,500.00
Rents Other Than Real Estate	\$ -	\$ -
Insurance and Bonding	\$ -	\$ -
Freight	\$ -	\$ -
Other Operating	\$ 6,500.00	\$ 6,500.00
Travel – Employee	\$ 2,000.00	\$ 2,000.00
Real Estate Rentals	\$ -	\$ 50,630.00
Professional Services (Per Diem)	\$ -	\$ -
Professional Services (Expenses)	\$ 9,547.00	\$ 17,500.00
Other Contractual Services (Non State)		\$ -
Contracts – State Orgs	\$ -	\$ -
IT Expenses	\$ 36,880.00	\$ 57,000.00
Voice/Data Communications	\$ -	\$ 1,200.00
Grants	\$ -	\$ -
Indirect Costs	\$ -	\$ -
Transfers	\$ -	\$ -
Total Operating Budget	\$ 64,077.00	\$ 148,980.00
TOTAL OVERALL BUDGET	\$ 71,377.00	\$ 156,280.00
State Funds		
Other Budgeted Funds		



JUDICIAL COUNCIL OF GEORGIA FY 2023 AMENDED REQUEST FORM FY 2024 ENHANCEMENT REQUEST FORM

Which Program is requesting this Enhancement?

Institute of Continuing Judicial Education

Part 1 – Detailed Explanation of Request

1. Proposal: COLA and fringe salary adjustment for newly created Training Assistant position and full funding of ICJE's administrative costs.
2. Geographic Impact: Where does the request impact the state?
 Statewide or list counties below:
3. Current Status:
 - a. What is the budget unit currently doing to address this issue?
Salary Adjustment: *We are currently recruiting talent at a reduced salary.*
Restoration of Operational Budget: *Judicial constituents are charged a shared overhead cost based on the ratio of each constituent group's cost before overhead allocation to the total costs of all the groups before overhead allocation. The resulting percentage is multiplied by the total cost to allocate a portion of the cost to each group.*
 - b. Will those activities continue if this request is funded? *Yes to both – (1) a candidate should be recruited and retained and (2) with administrative funding, ICJE will provide expanded training programming potential.*
4. Supporting Data:
 - a. Provide any supporting data, evaluations, and/or research for this request.
Please see the submitted PowerPoint
 - b. Include information on similar successful programs or evaluations in other jurisdictions that are relevant to this request.
5. Performance Measures: ***Please see the submitted PowerPoint***
 - a. What measures are or will be used to evaluate the impact of this change?
 - b. If an enhancement, what is the projected cost savings or return on investment?
 - c. What efficiencies will be realized?



JUDICIAL COUNCIL OF GEORGIA FY 2023 AMENDED REQUEST FORM FY 2024 ENHANCEMENT REQUEST FORM

6. Stakeholders & Constituents:

Please see the submitted PowerPoint

- a. Describe the constituent and stakeholder groups affected by this change (e.g., board members, advocates/interest groups, service providers, other agencies, and other governmental entities).
- b. Which are likely to support this request?
- c. Which are likely to oppose this request?
- d. Which have not voiced support or opposition? *ICJE is unaware of any opposition to the enhancement request.*

7. Legislation or Rule Change:

- a. Is legislation or a rule change required if this request is implemented? If so, please explain. *No.*
- b. Is this request a result of legislation or rule change? If so, please explain. *No.*

8. Alternatives:

What alternatives were considered and why are they not viable? *We have no other funding source to provide a COLA salary adjustment for the newly created TRAINING ASSISTANT position, and we have limited alternatives to supplement and risk quality programming if constituent groups are not able or refuse to bear ICJE's administrative costs.*

Part 2 - BUDGET

9. Requested and Projected Resources:

- a. For enhancements and certain base adjustments, describe the additional resources are you requesting. **Ensure descriptions and amounts align with the budget chart on page 2.*

- Positions: **\$5,000 COLA and \$2,300 Fringe Salary Adjustment**
- Operational needs: **Restoration of ICJE's administrative funding**

- b. What are your out-year projections?

10. Methodology/Assumptions:

- a. Provide the methodology and assumptions behind the requested amount and out-year projections. **Based on the previous year spend plus anticipated inflation**



JUDICIAL COUNCIL OF GEORGIA FY 2023 AMENDED REQUEST FORM FY 2024 ENHANCEMENT REQUEST FORM

- b. How did you arrive at the amounts? **Based on the previous year spend plus anticipated inflation**
- c. What time period does the request cover (i.e., the number of months)? **12 months**
- d.

11. Federal and Other Funds: Describe the impact on federal and/or other funds related to this request (amount, policy, etc.). **None**

Part 3 - OTHER INFORMATION

12. Discuss any historical or other relevant factors that should be considered.

The Institute of Continuing Judicial Education of Georgia (ICJE) is a creation of the University of Georgia Law School, the Judicial Council of Georgia, and the Georgia Supreme Court. It was founded as the Georgia Judicial College in 1976 but became the Institute of Continuing Judicial Education in 1979. It is the judicial branch agency designated to furnish continuing education for elected officials, employees, and volunteer agents of the State judiciary.

ICJE bears an obligation to the State and its citizens, the ABA-accredited law schools with which the Institute is affiliated, and the judiciary for which it endeavors to produce useful educational opportunities. This duty is to maintain and strive for continual improvement in, the educational integrity and instructional quality of activities conducted under its protection.

Its project output has more than tripled since its inception. It provides semiannual or annual programs for judges of superior, state, juvenile, probate, magistrate, and municipal courts, together with training for clerks of juvenile, probate, municipal, and magistrate courts. ICJE delivers approximately 45 trainings a year for more than 664 attendee contact training hours involving more than 4,500 program participants.

Since FY2008 ICJE's state funding was reduced by 49% and its operational costs are charged to the 15 constituent groups it serves. In addition to rising support fees, constituent groups also pay increased operational fees for ICJE. Although some judges receive financial support from their local government to pay their training and travel costs, many do not, and increased training fees threaten their attendance at these critical trainings.

Operational funding support from the state would alleviate increased costs for several local governments and allow them to redirect those funds to support members of the judiciary enrolled in ICJE training programs or fund specialized trainings for their members.



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FY 2024 ENHANCEMENT REQUEST FORM**

FY2022 ICJE Shared Office Overhead Allocation Fees Charged to Served Class of Court



**SHARED OFFICE OVERHEAD ALLOCATION
FISCAL YEAR FINANCIAL REPORT**

1	Overhead allocation based on FY2022 budgeted expenses	
2	Total ICJE FY21 Budgeted Overhead Cost	\$106,589.00
3	Less: Amount Not Allocated To Constituent Groups*	(\$27,556.00)
4	OVERHEAD COSTS SUBJECT TO ALLOCATION:	\$79,033.00

5	Constituent Group	FY22 Budgeted Expense	% of Total Expenses	Allocated Overhead
6	State Court Judges	\$71,664.00	4%	\$3,249.00
7	Juvenile Court Judges	\$71,550.00	4%	\$3,244.00
8	Juvenile Court Clerks	\$22,578.00	1%	\$1,024.00
9	Probate Court Judges – Non Traffic	\$104,647.00	6%	\$4,744.00
10	Probate Court Judges – Traffic	\$39,598.00	2%	\$1,795.00
11	Probate Court Clerks	\$29,213.00	2%	\$1,324.00
12	Magistrate Court Judges	\$228,553.00	13%	\$10,361.00
13	Magistrate Court Clerks	\$23,201.00	1%	\$1,052.00
14	Municipal Court Judges	\$128,264.00	7%	\$5,815.00
15	Municipal Court Clerks	\$106,705.00	6%	\$4,837.00
16	Superior Court Judges	\$550,000.00	32%	\$24,934.00
17	Judicial Staff Attorneys	\$22,352.00	1%	\$1,013.00
18	Accountability Court Judges	\$345,000.00	20%	\$15,641.00
19	TOTALS:	\$1,743,325.00	100%	\$79,033.00



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FY2023 ICJE Shared Office Overhead Allocation Fees Charged to Served Class of Court

PROPOSED FY 2023 ICJE BUDGET PRESENTED TO ICJE BD OF TRUSTEES – MAY 20, 2022 INCLUDING PROJECTIONS OF FUND BALANCES, EXPENSES AND REVENUES FOR FY 2023 SHARED OFFICE OVERHEAD ALLOCATION					
<p><i>To promote constituent confidence and to foster transparency, this information is made available to all ICJE constituent groups. These reports include ICJE – administered expenses only. For ICJE – administered expenses, any ICJE – maintained document (e.g. contract, invoice, travel reimbursement claim, etc.) is available for review upon request. These expenditures do not include any event expense authorized or administered by this group’s leadership or educational apparatus that was not administered by ICJE.</i></p>					
1	OVERHEAD ALLOCATION BASED ON BUDGETED EXPENSES				
2	Total ICJE Budgeted Overhead Costs			\$123,052.00	
3	Less: Amount Not Allocated to Constituent Groups			\$44,000.00	
4	OVERHEAD COSTS SUBJECT TO ALLOCATION:			\$79,052.00	
5	CONSTITUENT GROUP	Projected Expenses before Overhead Allocation	% of Total Expenses	Allocated Overhead	Projected Expenses with Overhead Allocation
6	Superior Court Judges	\$708,000.00	33.217%	\$26,259.00	\$734,259.00
7	State Court Judges	\$105,937.00	4.970%	\$3,929.00	\$109,866.00
8	Juvenile Court Judges	\$71,550.00	3.357%	\$2,654.00	\$74,204.00
9	Juvenile Court Clerks	\$22,600.00	1.060%	\$838.00	\$23,438.00
10	Probate Court Judges (Non-Traffic)	\$99,980.00	4.691%	\$3,708.00	\$103,688.00
11	Probate Court Judges (Traffic)	\$45,038.00	2.113%	\$1,670.00	\$46,708.00
12	Probate Court Clerks	\$32,874.00	1.542%	\$1,219.00	\$34,094.00
13	Magistrate Court Judges	\$247,062.00	11.591%	\$9,163.00	\$256,225.00
14	Magistrate Court Clerks	\$43,005.00	2.018%	\$1,595.00	\$44,600.00
15	Municipal Court Judges	\$142,348.00	6.678%	\$5,279.00	\$147,628.00
16	Municipal Court Clerks	\$135,059.00	6.336%	\$5,009.00	\$140,068.00
17	Judicial Staff Attorneys	\$5,000.00	0.235%	\$185.00	\$5,185.00
18	Accountability Court Judges	\$473,000.00	22.191%	\$17,543.00	\$490,543.00
19	TOTAL:	\$2,131,454.00	100%	\$79,052.00	\$2,210,506.00



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REQUEST SUMMARY:

For use as talking points during conversations with funding and policy-making bodies to include the Judicial Council, General Assembly, and Office of the Governor.

1. Which Program is requesting this Enhancement?

Judicial Council – Administrative Office of the Courts

2. Enhancement Name/Descriptor:

One Policy Counsel position and one Project Coordinator position to provide policy analysis, subject matter expertise, and logistical support to the various Committees of the Judicial Council.

FISCAL YEAR	Current state funds received	Amount Requesting	If granted, a new state funding level
<input type="checkbox"/> Amended FY 2023	\$	\$	\$
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> FY 2024	\$8,579,744	\$228,924	\$8,808,668

3. What will the enhancement accomplish?

The enhancement will allow the Administrative Office of the Courts (AOC) to better serve the evolving needs and complex policy issues facing the Judiciary. As staff to the Judicial Council, AOC provides subject-matter expertise on policy, court innovation, legislation, and court administration to all Georgia courts. Staffing the various Committees of the Judicial Council often includes aspects of all these responsibilities. Due to this, the work of the Committees requires a massive allocation of AOC’s most important resource, it’s personnel.

In addition to the Judicial Council’s nine Standing Committees, the Chief Justice reserves the right to create Ad Hoc Committees, which are often aimed at complex policy issues facing the Courts. The Committees bring together a diverse set of stakeholders that often extends beyond the Judicial Branch, requiring extensive coordination. There are four current Ad Hoc Committees that are driving the need for this enhancement. The Judicial Council COVID-19 Task Force, the Judicial Council Ad Hoc Committee on American Rescue Plan Act Funding, the Judicial Council Ad Hoc Committee on Judicial Emergency Preparedness, and the Judicial Council Ad Hoc Committee on Judicial Salaries and Supplements. All four of these Committees have been created since May of 2020. All the named Committees require the dedication of at least one senior staff member, some as many as three, to provide the expertise necessary to the needs of the Committee. These assignments are in addition to their duties to the Standing Committees of the Judicial Council and operational roles within the



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agency. Senior staff are having to spend more of their time carrying out not only the policy related work, but in many cases also the logistical support and coordination of each Committee. It should also be noted that while these are the Committees that are currently straining AOC resources, the number of Committees could continue to increase. The nature of the Committee work is fluid, so the request is not based on these four Committees alone, and the need will outlive these current Committees. This is also not an exhaustive list of Committees currently staffed by AOC staff.

The two requested positions would directly address the workload associated with the Judicial Council's Committee work. The addition of one Policy Counsel position with high level policy experience would be able to serve as primary staff to Judicial Council Committees and drive the policy analysis, research, and policy development of the Committees. The addition of a Project Coordinator position would provide logistical and administrative support to the Committees, freeing up policy and other staff to focus their attention and time on the complex subject matters of each Committee.

4. What is unable to be accomplished without the enhancement?

As a service Agency, the Administrative Office of the Courts takes its direction from the Judicial Council, the Supreme Court, and statute, and does not directly control the work assigned to it by the Judicial Council. The AOC must harness and allocate its resources to address the important work assigned to it. Currently the AOC is having to dedicate more of its senior level staff's time to this work, making it difficult to balance with existing responsibilities. Without this enhancement the AOC will continue to have to stretch its existing resources to meet policy needs that are increasing in both quantity and complexity.

5. Does the enhancement include salaried staff and/or operations, which includes contractors?

- Salaried staff
- Operating Funds (includes contractors)



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FY 2024 ENHANCEMENT REQUEST FORM

Budget Categories	FY 23 Amended Request	FY 24 Enhancement Request
Personnel Services:	\$ -	\$ 228,924
Operating Costs:		
Postage	\$ -	\$ -
Motor Vehicle Expenses	\$ -	\$ -
Printing, Publications, Media	\$ -	\$ -
Supplies and Materials	\$ -	\$ -
Repairs and Maintenance	\$ -	\$ -
Equipment < \$5,000	\$ -	\$ -
Water/Sewage	\$ -	\$ -
Energy	\$ -	\$ -
Rents Other Than Real Estate	\$ -	\$ -
Insurance and Bonding	\$ -	\$ -
Freight	\$ -	\$ -
Other Operating	\$ -	\$ -
Travel – Employee	\$ -	\$ -
Real Estate Rentals	\$ -	\$ -
Professional Services (Per Diem)	\$ -	\$ -
Professional Services (Expenses)	\$ -	\$ -
Other Contractual Services (Non State)	\$ -	\$ -
Contracts – State Orgs	\$ -	\$ -
IT Expenses	\$ -	\$ -
Voice/Data Communications	\$ -	\$ -
Grants	\$ -	\$ -
Indirect Costs	\$ -	\$ -
Transfers	\$ -	\$ -
Total Operating Budget	\$ -	\$ -
TOTAL OVERALL BUDGET	\$ -	\$ 228,924
State Funds	\$ -	\$ 228,924
Other Budgeted Funds		



JUDICIAL COUNCIL OF GEORGIA FY 2023 AMENDED REQUEST FORM FY 2024 ENHANCEMENT REQUEST FORM

Which Program is requesting this Enhancement?

Judicial Council - Administrative Office of the Courts

Part 1 – Detailed Explanation of Request

1. Proposal:

The Policy Counsel position would have a starting salary of \$85,000 plus fringe benefits. This would be a senior level position, ideally with a legal background and experience working with policy either in the legislative or judicial branch. This position would be tasked with leading the necessary research and policy development associated with the Judicial Council’s various Committees. By adding this full-time senior level position, it would allow senior staff that are currently tied down with multiple Committees to be able to focus on their primary responsibilities as well as their work with the Standing Committees. Senior staff would then be able to serve the Committees in more of an advisory role.

For example, currently the Judicial Council Ad Hoc Committee on ARPA requires extensive time and resources from three senior level positions, and while day-to-day ARPA staff are federally funded these three positions are 100% State funded. The new Judicial Council Ad Hoc Committees on Judicial Emergency Preparedness and Judicial Salaries and Supplements both are staffed by two senior staff positions who also have required and extensive Standing Committee responsibilities.

The Project Coordinator position would provide invaluable logistical and project management support to the AOC to manage the work of these Committees. The proposed starting salary for this position is \$50,000 plus fringe benefits. Judicial Council Committees bring together large groups of stakeholders that require an extensive amount of communication and coordination. For example, the COVID-19 Task Force has 32 members from various organizations that interface with the Judicial Branch. Having a full-time position dedicated to coordinating the work of these Committees will help keep Committee work moving forward as well as lifting a large administrative burden from current staff.

These positions would be organized within the Director’s Division.

2. Geographic Impact: Where does the request impact the state?

Statewide or list counties below:

3. Current Status:

a. What is the budget unit currently doing to address this issue?



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Currently senior staff level positions are serving as primary staff to the Committees, which creates a heavy workload for these positions and takes valuable time away from their daily responsibilities.

- b. Will those activities continue if this request is funded?

The AOC is a service Agency and will continue to provide staffing to these Committees without this enhancement. However, it will continue to prevent AOC from best aligning its resources to meet its goals of improving the administration of justice in the State of Georgia.

4. Supporting Data: N/A

- a. Provide any supporting data, evaluations, and/or research for this request.
- b. Include information on similar successful programs or evaluations in other jurisdictions that are relevant to this request.

5. Performance Measures: N/A

- a. What measures are or will be used to evaluate the impact of this change?
- b. If an enhancement, what is the projected cost savings or return on investment?
- c. What efficiencies will be realized?

6. Stakeholders & Constituents:

- a. Describe the constituent and stakeholder groups affected by this change (e.g., board members, advocates/interest groups, service providers, other agencies, other governmental entities).

This enhancement would benefit all members of the Judicial Council, as well as the membership of its Committees, which includes members from other governmental and non-governmental entities

- b. Which are likely to support this request? Judicial Council and the membership of its Committees
- c. Which are likely to oppose this request? None
- d. Which have not voiced support or opposition? None

7. Legislation or Rule Change:



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- a. Is legislation or a rule change required if this request is implemented? If so, please explain.

No legislation or rule changes will be required if this request is implemented.

- b. Is this request a result of legislation or rule change? If so, please explain.

No.

8. Alternatives:

What alternatives were considered and why are they not viable?

The AOC is always looking for ways to utilize contracts to manage its workload and maintain lean staffing levels. We do contract with some providers to provide services to certain Committees when we see the opportunity. We do not see contracting for this level of work as a proper alternative. The need is for someone that can dedicate their full time to the work of these Committees and to be able to staff and coordinate the work of more than one Committee at a time. Our clients also appreciate the ability to build relationships with full-time staff and the ability to call on them at any time. We will continue to seek part-time and contract staff on a case-by-case basis to supplement the work of our full-time staff.

Part 2 - BUDGET

9. Requested and Projected Resources:

- a. For enhancements and certain base adjustments, describe the additional resources are you requesting. **Ensure descriptions and amounts align with the budget chart on page 2.*

- Positions: 2
- Operational needs: AOC is not requesting any operational expenses for these positions. Current resources will allow the AOC to cover associated operational expenses for these positions.

- b. What are your out-year projections?

10. Methodology/Assumptions:

- a. Provide the methodology and assumptions behind the requested amount and out-year projections.
- b. How did you arrive at the amounts?
- c. What time period does the request cover (i.e., the number of months)?
- d.



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11. Federal and Other Funds: Describe the impact on federal and/or other funds related to this request (amount, policy, etc.).

Part 3 - OTHER INFORMATION

12. Discuss any historical or other relevant factors that should be considered.



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REQUEST SUMMARY:

For use as talking points during conversations with funding and policy making bodies to include the Judicial Council, General Assembly, and Office of the Governor.

1. Which Program is requesting this Enhancement?

Judicial Council – Administrative Office of the Courts – Standing Committee on Access to Justice

2. Enhancement Name/Descriptor:

Name: Self-Help Centers – Services to Georgia Citizens – Statewide

FISCAL YEAR	Current state funds received	Amount Requesting	If granted, new state funding level
FY 2023	\$	\$0	\$0
X FY 2024	\$0	\$500,00	\$500,000

3. What will the enhancement accomplish?

- This funding will provide grant funds to areas that have legal deserts (no or few lawyers). The goal with Self-Help Centers is to provide assistance to citizens who plan to represent themselves in court for civil matters, including all family law matters, probate issues, property issues, and expungement procedures. Self-Help Centers can also help veterans, including making referrals to the Military and Veterans Legal Assistance Program (<https://www.gabar.org/publicservice/militarylegalassistance.cfm>), and can work to coordinate with the State Bar’s Pro Bono programs for all citizens. There are also opportunities for the Self-Help Centers to connect with Georgia’s faith communities because people often go to their local faith leaders first when legal problems arise, as Tennessee discovered when reviewing public survey results.
- The bulk of the funding for the Self-Help Centers would support non-lawyers who are often called legal navigators. See: <https://napco4courtleaders.org/wp-content/uploads/2019/08/Nonlawyer-Navigators-in-State-Courts.pdf>. These part-time or full-time employees would not offer legal advice, but would help the citizens fill out the right forms and teach the procedural next steps.
- There are already several Self-Help Centers that exist in Georgia that are serving most of the state. They need a source of funding as they exist now on grant funds which are not sustainable.
- The Judicial Council/AOC would set up a grant funding program similar to the DV legal services and kinship care legal services programs. The Self-Help Center grant funding program would be given out strategically to prioritize serving the rural areas of Georgia and to develop a statewide network to better serve all Georgians who have legal needs and who cannot afford a lawyer.



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- The cap for any grant given to any single Self-Help Center would be \$150K and would be decided via a grant application and review process managed by the Judicial Council Standing Committee on Grants (Grants Committee). The A2J Committee and the Grants Committee will work together to develop a funding plan to give Start-up Self-Help Centers more funds in the beginning which will eventually taper back once local funding and fund-raising becomes more established. Each grant recipient will be asked to match any state funds with 20% of local funding as well as serve any citizen outside the county who needs assistance. Over time, that local funding will be asked to increase to 50%.

4. What is unable to be accomplished without the enhancement?

- Without this new funding, the current Self-Help Centers in Georgia will likely close at some point in the near future as the current grant funders have let us know that this funding will not continue beyond another year.

5. Does the enhancement include salaried staff and/or operations, which includes contractors? Yes.

Salaried staff

Operating Funds (may be used for staff and contractors)



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Budget Categories	FY 2023 Amended Request	FY 2024 Enhancement Request
Personnel Services:	\$ -	\$ -
Operating Costs:		
Postage		
Motor Vehicle Expenses		
Printing, Publications, Media		
Supplies and Materials		
Repairs and Maintenance		
Equipment < \$5,000		
Water/Sewage		
Energy		
Rents Other Than Real Estate		
Insurance and Bonding		
Freight		
Other Operating		
Travel – Employee		
Real Estate Rentals		
Professional Services (Per Diem)		
Professional Services (Expenses)		
Other Contractual Services (Non State)		
Contracts – State Orgs		
IT Expenses		
Voice/Data Communications		
Grants	\$ 500,000	
Indirect Costs		
Transfers		
Total Operating Budget	\$	\$500,000 -
TOTAL OVERALL BUDGET	\$	\$500,000 -
State Funds		
Other Budgeted Funds		



JUDICIAL COUNCIL OF GEORGIA FY 2023 AMENDED REQUEST FORM FY 2024 ENHANCEMENT REQUEST FORM

Which Program is requesting this Enhancement?

Judicial Council - Administrative Office of the Courts

Part 1 – Detailed Explanation of Request

1. Proposal:

This funding will provide direct assistance to Georgia citizens who need help accessing the court forms and procedural rules in order to successfully represent themselves in court. Improving access to justice remains a hard problem especially in areas where there are no lawyers (10 Georgia counties) and areas where there are fewer than 10 lawyers (estimated to be 25 to 30 counties).

During a recent swearing-in of new lawyers, Georgia Supreme Court Presiding Justice Michael Boggs urged a group of newly sworn-in lawyers to give their time to help those living in the state’s “legal deserts.” The term “legal desert” refers to the growing problem with access to justice in rural areas. In fact, approximately 40% of our 50,000 plus bar members practice law within the Metro Atlanta area. Our last official count of unrepresented litigants was well over 1.1 million. Hence, we don't have enough lawyers in this state to address this increasing need.

While Georgia has a robust pro bono community, it is still not enough to meet the needs of Georgia citizens and people have the right to represent themselves if they cannot obtain or afford a lawyer. We have learned through this 4-year experiment of measuring the Albany Self-Help Center that basic assistance with filling out the right forms, explaining the court process, and pointing people in the right direction provides an enormous service to helping people represent themselves. Staff with the Judicial Council of Georgia have worked closely with the State Bar of Georgia to provide a good definition of what does and does not constitute the authorized practice of law. (UPL Card: <https://georgiacourts.gov/wp-content/uploads/2019/12/UPL-Counter-Card.pdf>)

The Albany Self-Help Center opened in 2018 with grant funds and has served over 36,000 Georgians from 109 counties. It is staffed by 1 part-time lawyer, 2 full-time employees, and 2 part-time employees at a cost of approximately \$300,000 annually. The Center’s operations and daily work has been observed by the Judicial Council’s Access to Justice Committee. The Albany Self-Help Center assists people by providing comprehensive packets that must only be completed and filed with the courts, including packets to address family law matters, rental assistance, record-restriction (expungement), property, probation matters, and much more. The staff collaborates with faith and community leaders to help spread the word about the Self-Help Center and since COVID-19, the staff has pivoted to using more technology in order to serve citizens who are capable.

<https://georgiacourtsjournal.org/2020/07/30/interview-with-dougherty-county-law-library-southwest-georgia-legal-self-help-center-staff/>

<https://twitter.com/GACourts/status/1221840912608829442>

This funding would provide Georgia citizens with the much-needed assistance to navigate Georgia’s legal system as self-represented litigants.



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Certain services would be specifically excluded, including:

- Class action suits;
- Criminal defense;
- Deportation proceedings;
- Juvenile delinquency;

2. Geographic Impact: Where does the request impact the state?

Statewide or list counties below:

Rural areas and counties with limited access to lawyers

3. Current Status:

a. What is the budget unit currently doing to address this issue?

Currently, requesting 500,000 to provide sustainable funding.

b. Will those activities continue if this request is funded? Yes.



JUDICIAL COUNCIL OF GEORGIA FY 2023 AMENDED REQUEST FORM FY 2024 ENHANCEMENT REQUEST FORM

4. Supporting Data:

- a. Provide any supporting data, evaluations, and/or research for this request.

See Impact Report from the Southwest Georgia Legal Self-Help Center (ATTACH)

- b. Include information on similar successful programs or evaluations in other jurisdictions that are relevant to this request.

In addition to the Southwest Georgia Legal Self-Help Center, Middle GA Justice has also created a Self-Help Center as well as a robust pro bono program. Also, the Appalachian Judicial Circuit has a Family Law Self-Help Center. All three Self-Help Centers would likely apply for grant funds. Any grant funds would be advertised to all Georgia courts with encouragement to apply by a certain deadline but noting that rural areas that apply will receive priority review.

5. Performance Measures:

- a. What measures are or will be used to evaluate the impact of this change?

Grant recipients would provide the JC/AOC with an annual impact report based on the numbers served, demographics of those served, including geographic location, gender and racial breakdown and a summary of financial benefits secured. The JC/AOC would also do an annual survey of Georgia judges and the superior court clerks to assess how the self-help centers were working and what could be improved.

- b. If an enhancement, what is the projected cost savings or return on investment?

An ROI analysis of the Southwest Georgia Legal Self-Help Center has been contracted for with GSU Andrew Young School of Policy Studies Economics Professor Peter Bluestone to be completed by December 2022.

- c. What efficiencies will be realized?

This funding reduces court time and citizen frustration for citizens who represent themselves either because of cost or on principle and who need access to justice to resolve family issues, property disputes, and/or record restriction needs (i.e. expungement). Georgia Justice Project estimates that over 4 million citizens in Georgia hold a criminal record and some of these records are eligible for orders restricting their access. Record restrictions help citizens get jobs, get promotions, open businesses, and more.



JUDICIAL COUNCIL OF GEORGIA FY 2023 AMENDED REQUEST FORM FY 2024 ENHANCEMENT REQUEST FORM

6. Stakeholders & Constituents:

- a. Describe the constituent and stakeholder groups affected by this change (e.g., board members, advocates/interest groups, service providers, other agencies, other governmental entities).

Constituents and stakeholders include: Citizens in rural counties or legal deserts where it is not easy to obtain a lawyer, as well as judges, court staff, legislators, community leaders, the private bar, especially in rural and remote areas.

- b. Which are likely to support this request?

All stakeholders are likely to support this request.

- c. Which are likely to oppose this request?

The Judicial Council's Standing Committee on Access to Justice is unaware of any opposition to this request.

- d. Which have not voiced support or opposition?

None

7. Legislation or Rule Change:

- a. Is legislation or a rule change required if this request is implemented? If so, please explain.
No.
- b. Is this request a result of a legislation or rule change? If so, please explain.
No.

8. Alternatives:

What alternatives were considered and why are they not viable?

The Judicial Council has assisted the local Self-Help Centers with obtaining temporary grant funds which proved to be extremely valuable for the citizens in the State of Georgia. Those national or federal funding sources will not provide sustainable funding. Each grant recipient will be asked to match any state funds with 20% of local funding as well as serve any citizen outside the county who needs assistance.

Part 2 - BUDGET



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9. Requested and Projected Resources:

a. For enhancements and certain base adjustments, describe the additional resources are you requesting. **Ensure descriptions and amounts align with the budget chart on page 2.*

b. Positions: (full-time/part-time, education required, qualifications, overview of general duties, and salaries)

c. Operational needs: **These state grants funds would be given for operational needs to the local Self-Help Legal Centers after applying and adhering to grant requirements. The grant requirements will be modeled after the DV legal services and the Kinship legal services grant requirements and protocols currently managed by the Judicial Council Standing Committee on Grants.**

d. What are your out-year projections?

\$500,000

10. Methodology/Assumptions:

a. Provide the methodology and assumptions behind the requested amount and out-year projections.

The \$500,000 will cover services of full-time or part-time legal navigators (non-lawyers who assist citizens) with filling out the correct court form, guidance for how to proceed and providing various legal resources. And part-time lawyers who provide legal advice when needed. These lawyers do not represent clients but can give legal advice to people representing themselves. The grant allocations would be prioritized to build a network of Self-Help Centers in rural areas of Georgia to serve the entire state.

b. How did you arrive at the amounts?

Based on current operating funds used under the temporary grants. The annual budget of the Southwest Georgia Legal Self-Help Center is 330K which covers 2 full-time legal navigators, 2 part-time legal navigators and one part-time lawyer who is the Center's director.

c. What time period does the request cover (i.e., the number of months)?

Twelve months.

11. Federal and Other Funds: Describe the impact on federal and/or other funds related to this request (amount, policy etc.).

None.

Part 3 - OTHER INFORMATION



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12. Discuss any historical or other relevant factors that should be considered.

Beginning in 1999, the Georgia General Assembly appropriated funds to the Judicial Council of Georgia for grants to provide civil legal services to victims of family violence. The Judicial Council adopted general guidelines to govern the granting of these funds which are filed with the Georgia Secretary of State. It has also delegated to its Judicial Council Standing Committee on Grants (Grants Committee) the duty of accepting and evaluating grant applications and awarding grants.

The Grants Committee will oversee any new appropriation for Self-Help Centers. The Grants Committee will award these funds starting July 1. A 20% match of local funds will be required for each state grant given. Rural county or circuit requests with fewer than ten attorneys will be prioritized.

Grants will be awarded for a one-year term. Each of Georgia's fifty circuits will be included. The amount of funds available for distribution to grantees may change each year based on the amount of funds appropriated to the Judicial Council/Administrative Office of the Courts and the cost of the administrative oversight of these funds.



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JUDICIAL COUNCIL OF GEORGIA

FY 2023 AMENDED REQUEST FORM

FY 2024 ENHANCEMENT REQUEST FORM

REQUEST SUMMARY:

For use as talking points during conversations with funding and policy making bodies to include the Judicial Council, General Assembly, and Office of the Governor.

1. Which Program is requesting this Enhancement? **Supreme Court Committee on Justice for Children**

Judicial Council - Administrative Office of the Courts

2. Enhancement Name/Descriptor:

Civil Legal Services to Families of Indigent Patients

FISCAL YEAR	Current state funds received	Amount Requesting	If granted, new state funding level
<input type="checkbox"/> FY 2023	\$ 0	\$0	\$0
<input type="checkbox"/> FY 2024	\$ 0	\$619,000	\$619,000

3. What will the enhancement accomplish?

- This funding will provide additional grant funds to organizations for attorneys to support medical-legal partnerships (MLPs), which combine the health care expertise of hospital professionals with the legal expertise of attorneys to improve the health of children and their caretakers with complicating medical conditions.
- Attorneys will handle a wide variety of cases, from getting better housing conditions for kids with asthma, to handling custody matters required for children to receive medical care; from getting special education benefits for disabled children, to getting children disability benefits and medical coverage.
- It is expected over 600 new cases would be opened each year with this new funding.

4. What is unable to be accomplished without the enhancement?

- This funding will provide civil legal services to help indigent hospitalized patients - particularly medically fragile children who lack access to benefits, services and supports and face other barriers to health care - address social determinants of health. These patients are often endangered by lack of resources, poor housing conditions, or lack of access to healthcare or school supports.
- Without the civil legal services made possible through this funding, patients will continue to face significant barriers to positive medical outcomes, and hospitals will continue to incur significant expenses linked to high rates of uncompensated care and Medicaid readmission penalties.

5. Does the enhancement include salaried staff and/or operations, which includes contractors? No

Salaried staff



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XOperating Funds (includes contractors)

Budget Categories	FY 2023 Amended Request	FY 2024 Enhancement Request
Personnel Services:	\$	\$
Operating Costs:		
Postage		
Motor Vehicle Expenses		
Printing, Publications, Media		
Supplies and Materials		
Repairs and Maintenance		
Equipment < \$5,000		
Water/Sewage		
Energy		
Rents Other Than Real Estate		
Insurance and Bonding		
Freight		
Other Operating		
Travel – Employee		
Real Estate Rentals		
Professional Services (Per Diem)		
Professional Services (Expenses)		
Other Contractual Services (Non State)		
Contracts – State Orgs		
IT Expenses		
Voice/Data Communications		
Grants	\$	619,000.00
Indirect Costs		
Transfers		
Total Operating Budget	\$	\$619,000.00 -
TOTAL OVERALL BUDGET	\$	\$619,000.00 -
State Funds		
Other Budgeted Funds		



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Which Program is requesting this Enhancement?

Judicial Council - Administrative Office of the Courts

Part 1 – Detailed Explanation of Request

1. Proposal:

This funding will provide support to providers of civil legal services for children and families with low incomes who are being treated at Georgia hospitals through Medical-Legal Partnerships. Medical-Legal Partnerships (MLPs) combine the health care expertise of hospital professionals with the legal expertise of attorneys to reduce health disparities and address social determinants of health. Lawyers are embedded in hospitals to facilitate seamless access to both healthcare and legal assistance; MLPs foster collaboration between healthcare and legal professionals, improve health outcomes for patients, and result in lower costs to hospitals as a result of uncompensated care and Medicare readmission penalties.

The legal needs of families with low incomes can impact the health and well-being of the entire family, particularly children. This funding would provide families with critical legal assistance to help overcome legal barriers to a healthy, safe environment needed to improve their physical health. For instance, addressing bad housing conditions can help sick children with asthma. Attorneys can help an adult obtain legal authority necessary to authorize needed medical treatment. Attorneys can also provide representation to obtain financial benefits, educational access and special education services, government support, and safe housing for at-risk children.

Certain services would be specifically excluded, including:

- Class action suits;
- Criminal defense;
- Deportation proceedings;
- Juvenile delinquency;
- Indirect legal services – such as training;
- Matters to be adjudicated in courts outside of Georgia; and
- Other proceedings not related to client safety, stability, or economic security.

2. Geographic Impact: Where does the request impact the state?

Statewide or list counties below:

Families and children with low incomes being treated at hospitals across the State.

3. Current Status:

a. What is the budget unit currently doing to address this issue?



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Currently, no funding is approved to address this issue.

- b. Will those activities continue if this request is funded? NA

4. Supporting Data:

- a. Provide any supporting data, evaluations, and/or research for this request.

According to the National Center for Medical-Legal Partnerships (2020), about 60% of a person's health is determined by social factors, including household income, education, employment, and family stability. Georgia ranks 38th in the nation in child and family well-being, according to the 2021 Kids Count Data Book. According to the American Health Rankings' state findings for 2021, the overall health outcomes for children ranked 33rd in the nation, with socioeconomic factors (38th in the nation), economic resources (44th), and children in poverty (33rd) being significant factors for poor outcomes. Similarly, a 2018 report from Voices for Georgia's Children regarding barriers to healthcare stated that Georgia had the 7th highest rate for uninsured children and determined that the key barriers to healthcare that children faced were poverty, health literacy, and system navigation.

Patients with access to medical-legal partnerships see improvements in health outcomes, reductions in healthcare expenditures, and increased access to government benefits. An analysis of clients served by Georgia's Health Law Partnership (HeLP) from 2006 to 2018 found that, through the program, 657 children with neurodevelopmental disabilities were able to have their legal concerns addressed and obtained and retained benefits exceeding 4.9 million; these services also resulted in improved access to education resources, as well as short- and long-term financial cost savings for both families and the healthcare system. Studies around the country have found similar results.

- b. Include information on similar successful programs or evaluations in other jurisdictions that are relevant to this request.

Atlanta Legal Aid has a medical-legal collaborative, Health Law Partnership (HeLP), with Children's Healthcare of Atlanta and Georgia State University consisting of 4 attorneys and 1 paralegal. In 2020 and 2021, HeLP handled 1212 cases which resulted in over \$2 million of measurable outcomes; this included over \$400,000 gained from education services provided, nearly \$420,000 in SSI benefits, nearly \$200,000 in healthcare benefits, and over \$270,000 in preservation of affordable housing benefits. Through its medical-legal collaborative, MedLaw, Georgia Legal Services Program (GLSP) has an attorney embedded in Atrium Health Navicent in Macon. In 2020 and 2021, MedLaw handled 185 cases resulting in over \$154,000 in measurable outcomes, including over \$120,000 in Medicaid services, over \$12,000 in public benefits, nearly \$20,000 in housing/probate matters; patients also received assistance with emergent family law issues. In 2022, GLSP has expanded its MLP approach by establishing a medical-legal collaborative with McKinney Medical Center in Waycross, GA.

Performance Measures:

- a. What measures are or will be used to evaluate the impact of this change?



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Providers will measure the success of the project by tracking and reporting semi-annually to the Judicial Council on the numbers of children and people with low incomes served, including the types of legal representation provided. They will also track the demographics of those served, including geographic location, gender and racial breakdown, and the amount of financial benefits secured for the patient and their household.

- b. If an enhancement, what is the projected cost savings or return on investment?

MLPs provide a substantial return on investment (ROI) by moving patients from uncompensated to compensated care, avoiding Medicaid readmission penalties, and freeing resources currently allocated to providing care for patients with preventable health issues. An MLP in Illinois showed a 271% ROI between 2002 and 2009. A study of patients in the Cincinnati Children's Hospital Medical Center found the median predicted hospitalization rate for children in the year following referral to their MLP was 37.9% lower if the child received legal intervention than if they did not.

Additionally, communities have also been shown to receive a significant economic benefit when MLPs assist patients in obtaining governmental assistance. Studies have shown every additional dollar of SSI benefits results in a \$1.95 of additional economic activity; every dollar of additional SNAP assistance leads to an economic impact of \$1.70.

Similar results have been obtained through existing MLP efforts in Georgia. HeLP in Atlanta secured over \$640,000 in potentially unreimbursed payments between 2006 and 2010. In a single Medlaw Macon case, a lawyer's intervention was able to move a Navicent patient whose care had cost the hospital over \$500,000 a year into community care.

- c. What efficiencies will be realized?

MLPs help communities to save costs by making patients more likely to disclose social determinants of health which account for 60% of patient outcomes and have a significant impact on chronic health issues, which have been shown to cost Georgia an estimated \$40 billion annually. Studies indicate that receiving services through an MLP makes patients 39% more likely to disclose underlying issues related to these social determinants so they can be ameliorated. This helps communities save costs by avoiding readmittance penalties, moving patients to compensated care, freeing up bed space by resolving the underlying causes of health issues, and helping avoid preventable deaths from chronic health issues.

5. Stakeholders & Constituents:

- a. Describe the constituent and stakeholder groups affected by this change (e.g., board members, advocates/interest groups, service providers, other agencies, other governmental entities).

Constituents and stakeholders include: Hospitals, community leaders, the private bar, juvenile judges, and other child-focused agencies and coalitions in Georgia. The impacts of this enhancement will be felt statewide, especially in rural and remote areas.



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- b. Which are likely to support this request?

All stakeholders are likely to support this request because they each see the need to reduce health disparities in children by addressing the social determinants of health through legal services delivered in collaboration with hospital professionals.

- c. Which are likely to oppose this request?

The Council is unaware of any opposition to this request.

- d. Which have not voiced support or opposition? None.

6. Legislation or Rule Change:

- a. Is legislation or a rule change required if this request is implemented? If so, please explain. No.
- b. Is this request a result of a legislation or rule change? If so, please explain. No.

7. Alternatives:

What alternatives were considered and why are they not viable?

The cost of civil legal services is too high for most low-income families who are also facing serious health conditions; the logistical and other burdens related to medical treatment can also present additional burdens that prevent them from seeking legal assistance. There are, unfortunately, no other viable alternatives to address this combination of factors.

Part 2 - BUDGET

8. Requested and Projected Resources:

- a. For enhancements and certain base adjustments, describe the additional resources are you requesting. **Ensure descriptions and amounts align with the budget chart on page 2.*
- b. Positions: (full-time/part-time, education required, qualifications, overview of general duties, and salaries)
- c. Operational needs: Financial support for **\$619,000** in operational grants for organizations providing legal services as part of medical-legal partnerships.
- d. What are your out-year projections?



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9. Methodology/Assumptions:

- a. Provide the methodology and assumptions behind the requested amount and out-year projections.

The \$619,000 will cover services approximately equivalent to 4 lawyers and 4 paralegals to provide legal services for one year (twelve months) at hospitals in various areas around the State.

- b. How did you arrive at the amounts?

Based on Atlanta Legal Aid's and Georgia Legal Services Program's current budgets covering salary and fringe benefit expenses for 4 experienced attorneys and 4 paralegals.

- c. What time period does the request cover (i.e., the number of months)?

Twelve months.

10. Federal and Other Funds: Describe the impact on federal and/or other funds related to this request (amount, policy etc.).

None

Part 3 - OTHER INFORMATION

11. Discuss any historical or other relevant factors that should be considered.

Beginning in 1999, the Georgia General Assembly appropriated funds to the Judicial Council of Georgia for grants to provide civil legal services to victims of family violence. Beginning in 2017, the Georgia General Assembly appropriated funds to the Judicial Council of Georgia for grants to provide civil legal services to kinship care families. The Judicial Council adopted general guidelines to govern the granting of these funds which are filed with the Georgia Secretary of State. It has also delegated to its Judicial Council Standing Committee on Grants (Grants Committee) the duty of accepting and evaluating grant applications and awarding grants.

The Grants Committee will oversee any new appropriation for medical-legal partnerships. The Committee will award these funds starting July 1.

Seventy-five percent of the grant money will be awarded pursuant to the poverty population guidelines, which is based on the most current estimates from the U.S. Census, and twenty-five percent of the grant money will be awarded to special needs areas. Special needs categories (such as homelessness or rural counties with fewer than ten attorneys) may also be considered.

Grant proposals will be considered from nonprofit organizations taking part in medical-legal



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partnerships in Georgia. Providers may apply for funds from both categories.

Grants will be awarded for a one-year term. Each of Georgia's fifty circuits will be included. The amount of funds available for distribution to grantees may change each year based on the amount of funds appropriated to the Judicial Council/Administrative Office of the Courts and the cost of the administrative oversight of these funds.

In no event shall a grantee provide free legal services to a client whose income exceeds 200% of the federal poverty guidelines.



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REQUEST SUMMARY:

For use as talking points during conversations with funding and policy-making bodies to include the Judicial Council, General Assembly, and Office of the Governor.

1. Which Program is requesting this Enhancement?

Council of Accountability Court Judges - CACJ

2. Enhancement Name/Descriptor:

Medication-Assisted Treatment (MAT) Statewide Coordinator Position.

FISCAL YEAR	Current state funds received	Amount Requesting	If granted, a new state funding level
<input type="checkbox"/> Amended FY 2023	\$	\$	\$
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> FY 2024	\$	\$ 97,331.00	\$ 909,649.00

3. What will the enhancement accomplish?

CACJ currently has a federal fiscal year 2019 Bureau of Justice (BJA) grant that funds the MAT Statewide Coordinator position through September 30, 2023. The purpose of the position is to develop and guide the implementation of MAT services to accountability courts throughout Georgia. The position conducts research, develops and provides technical assistance to the courts throughout the state, assists in implementation efforts, and evaluates MAT programming within the accountability courts.

Per the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA), medication-assisted treatment (MAT) is defined as the use of medications, in combination with counseling and behavioral therapies, to provide a “whole-patient” approach to the treatment of substance use disorders. Medications used in MAT (such as Vivitrol and Suboxone) are approved by the Food and Drug Administration. MAT programs are clinically driven and tailored to meet each participant’s needs. According to the US Surgeon General, MAT is considered the “gold standard” in treating opioid use disorders, and SAMHSA, along with the National Institute on Drug Abuse (NIDA), the American Society of Addiction Medicine (ASAM), the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), and the American Medical Association (AMA) all recommend MAT as a best practice for treating OUDs. The American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists (ACOG) also recommends MAT as a best practice for treating pregnant women with OUDs.



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Research shows that a combination of medication and therapy can successfully treat these disorders, and for some people struggling with addiction, MAT can help sustain recovery and reduce recidivism. MAT is also used to prevent or reduce opioid overdose.

Further, the continuation of this position after the federal funding ends will support CACJ's ability to help ensure accountability court compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) by confirming courts are not prohibiting or limiting the use of lawfully prescribed medication to treat program participants diagnosed with an opioid use disorder (OUD). On February 24, 2022 the Justice Department filed suit against the Unified Judicial System of Pennsylvania for violating the ADA by discriminating against individuals with OUDs. In the complaint, the DOJ alleged that a drug court participant had been forced to go off MAT medication in order to graduate from the program, and that this constituted discrimination under the ADA.

A copy of the press release related to this suit can be found using the link provided below.

[Justice Department Files Suit Against Pennsylvania Court System for Discriminating Against People with Opioid Use Disorder | OPA | Department of Justice](#)

While this case has not yet resolved, CACJ recognizes the importance of effective MAT policy and technical assistance and hopes to continue the work of the BJA-funded position so that the agency can continue to assist the courts in implementing life-saving treatment effectively and in compliance with state and federal law.

4. What is unable to be accomplished without the enhancement?

Without the continuation of this position, CACJ will be hindered in efforts to enforce accountability court best practices. Per state standards, Georgia's accountability courts shall not exclude any participant solely on the basis of his or her use of a prescribed addiction or psychotropic medication. Programs shall consider these services for participants where clinically appropriate and where resources are available (e.g., Drug Court Standard 4.13). Additionally, CACJ would be limited in its ability to train and educate accountability court staff about the importance of developing and implementing policies and procedures that do not discriminate against the use of MAT medications prescribed for OUD.

5. Does the enhancement include salaried staff and/or operations, which includes contractors?
- Salaried staff
 - Operating Funds (includes contractors)



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Budget Categories	FY 23 Amended Request	FY 24 Enhancement Request
Personnel Services:	\$ -	\$ 81,956.00
Operating Costs:		
Postage	\$ -	\$ -
Motor Vehicle Expenses	\$ -	\$ -
Printing, Publications, Media	\$ -	\$ -
Supplies and Materials		\$ 3,000.00
Repairs and Maintenance	\$ -	\$ -
Equipment < \$5,000	\$ -	\$ -
Water/Sewage	\$ -	\$ -
Energy	\$ -	\$ -
Rents Other Than Real Estate		\$ 2,625.00
Insurance and Bonding	\$ -	\$ -
Freight	\$ -	\$ -
Other Operating		\$ -
Travel – Employee		\$ 9,000.00
Real Estate Rentals		\$ -
Professional Services (Per Diem)	\$ -	\$ -
Professional Services (Expenses)	\$ -	\$ -
Other Contractual Services (Non State)	\$ -	\$ -
Contracts – State Orgs	\$ -	\$ -
IT Expenses		\$ -
Voice/Data Communications		\$ 750.00
Grants	\$ -	\$ -
Indirect Costs	\$ -	\$ -
Transfers	\$ -	\$ -
Total Operating Budget	\$ -	\$ 15,375.00
TOTAL OVERALL BUDGET	\$ -	\$ 97,331.00
State Funds		
Other Budgeted Funds		



JUDICIAL COUNCIL OF GEORGIA FY 2023 AMENDED REQUEST FORM FY 2024 ENHANCEMENT REQUEST FORM

Which Program is requesting this Enhancement?

Accountability Courts

Part 1 – Detailed Explanation of Request

1. Proposal:

This enhancement request is pursuant to O.C.G.A 15-1-18, in that it supports CACJ's purpose to effectuate the constitutional and statutory responsibilities conferred upon it by law and to further the improvement of accountability courts, the quality and expertise of the judges thereof, and the administration of justice.

If approved, the request will support the continuation of sufficient staffing levels to train courts to either implement or enhance MAT programming within accountability courts. The request will also support CACJ's ability to provide MAT model fidelity technical assistance to the courts to help ensure the courts achieve and/or maintain compliance with best practices and state standards.

2. Geographic Impact: Where does the request impact the state?

Statewide or list counties below:

Statewide impact.

In addition to the statewide impact of this request, the adult accountability courts that have reported that they are NOT able to make MAT services accessible to participants due to a lack of resources are listed below:

**Atlantic Judicial Circuit Veterans Treatment Court
Burke County DUI/Drug Court
Carroll County Drug Court
Catoosa Juvenile Court Family Accountability Court
Cherokee County DUI/Drug Court
Cherokee County Family Treatment Court
Cherokee County Treatment Accountability Court
Conasauga Drug Court
Conasauga Mental Health Court
Cordele Circuit Adult Felony Drug Court
Coweta County DUI Court
Dodge County Adult Felony Drug Court
Dublin Circuit Adult Felony Drug Court
Fayette County DUI Court**



JUDICIAL COUNCIL OF GEORGIA FY 2023 AMENDED REQUEST FORM FY 2024 ENHANCEMENT REQUEST FORM

**Fayette County Veteran's Treatment Court
Fulton County Misdemeanor Mental Health Court
Gwinnett County Mental Health Court
Henry County DUI/Drug Court
Houston County Mental Health Court
Jefferson County Adult Felony Drug Court
Lookout Mountain Judicial Circuit Mental Health Court
Lowndes County DUI Court
Northern Judicial Circuit Adult Felony Drug Court
Ocmulgee Circuit Adult Treatment Court Collaborative- Mental Health Division
Ocmulgee Judicial Circuit Family Treatment Court
Ogeechee Judicial Circuit Drug Court
Ogeechee Judicial Circuit Mental Health Court
Paulding County Family Treatment Court
Paulding Judicial Circuit Mental Health Court
Southwestern Judicial Circuit Accountability Court
Tallapoosa Drug Intervention Program
Toombs Judicial Circuit Adult Felony Drug Court
Troup County Family Treatment Court**

In summary, as reported in fiscal year 2022, MAT was not accessible in 20% of Georgia's adult accountability courts.

3. Current Status:

- a. What is the budget unit currently doing to address this issue?

The state budget unit (salaried and operations) does not currently support this enhancement request. BJA funding is currently used to address this issue but is scheduled to end in September 2023.

- b. Will those activities continue if this request is funded?

The activities that will continue if this request is funded include: the development and implementation of MAT services in accountability courts throughout Georgia. The position conducts research, develops and provides technical assistance to the courts throughout the state, assists in implementation efforts, and evaluates MAT programming within the accountability courts.



JUDICIAL COUNCIL OF GEORGIA FY 2023 AMENDED REQUEST FORM FY 2024 ENHANCEMENT REQUEST FORM

4. Supporting Data:

- a. Provide any supporting data, evaluations, and/or research for this request.

According to the National Institute on Drug Abuse (NIDA), MAT “increases patient retention and decreases drug use, infectious disease transmission, and criminal activity” (NIDA, 2012). MAT services for justice-involved persons complement existing evidence-based treatment practices by providing medication that blocks opioids’ euphoric effects and reduces relapse-inducing cravings. The American Association for the Treatment of Opioid Dependence, Inc. (2017) cites many authorities, including the Office of National Drug Control Policy, the National Institute of Health, and SAMHSA’s Einstein Expert Panel in support of the use of MAT in the justice system. MAT’s quick evolution from philosophical disagreement of “replacing one drug for another” to the understanding of addiction as a disease and the impact on brain function, particularly as it relates to reward and motivation, learning and memory, and behavior control, is supported by research. In particular, SAMHSA’s Treatment Improvement Protocol (TIP) Number 43 notes studies’ support of the view that “opioid addiction is a medical disorder that can be treated effectively with medications administered under conditions consistent with their pharmacological efficacy, when treatment includes comprehensive services, such as psychosocial counseling, treatment for co-occurring disorders, medical services, vocational rehabilitative services, and case management services” (SAMHSA, 2005).

While it is understood MAT is an evidence-based practice, there is more nuance as it relates to the federally approved medications to treat opioid use disorder, as well as other effective medications for other substance use disorders. This request will support the ongoing research needed to fully understand MAT services and the ability of CACJ to provide technical assistance for the expansion and enhancement of this evidence-based practice for accountability court participants.

- b. Include information on similar successful programs or evaluations in other jurisdictions that are relevant to this request.

The research support of MAT services in drug courts is well established (Friedman & Wagner-Goldstein, 2016); however, at the time of this request, CACJ is unaware of any other non-unified governed state who has embarked on a statewide rollout of MAT services for accountability courts. While much can be learned by previous research conducted for MAT services in drug courts, such as that of the Center for Court Innovation and the Legal Action Center in their study of MAT services in New York’s unified court system, Georgia’s court system presents unique challenges that would benefit from one



JUDICIAL COUNCIL OF GEORGIA FY 2023 AMENDED REQUEST FORM FY 2024 ENHANCEMENT REQUEST FORM

coordinated effort. Just as Georgia’s state drug court standards recommend “drug courts should provide a continuum of services through partnership with a primary treatment provider(s) to deliver treatment, coordinate ancillary services, and make referrals as necessary” (1.10), CACJ believes the Statewide MAT Coordinator position will allow for a streamlined and efficient approach to the expansion of MAT services in the state of Georgia where a non-unified government exists.

In addition to the support of MAT service expansion, this request would support the continued improvement of MAT data collection to allow for more rigorous evaluation, with the goal of eventual publication to further the growing body of research in support of a continuum of evidence-based services for justice-involved persons.

5. Performance Measures:

- a. What measures are or will be used to evaluate the impact of this change?

The impact of this change will be measured through improved program outcomes. Quarterly data is collected from each court then analyzed to determine the effectiveness of each program. The MAT specific data points include the number of participants prescribed MAT, the type of MAT prescribed, and the number of participants prescribed MAT that complete the accountability court program. CACJ is adding additional data fields for state FY2023 to improve MAT data collection and better understand MAT effectiveness in Georgia’s accountability courts.

Between FY2021 and the second quarter of FY2022 there were 429 accountability court participants utilizing MAT as part of their treatment plan.

- b. If an enhancement, what is the projected cost savings or return on investment?

The return on the enhancement request is in the form of an investment, which is best demonstrated by the improvement and quality of the accountability courts in Georgia.

Our most recent analysis shows that for every dollar invested into an adult accountability court, there is \$4.46 saved. This amounts to an average annual savings per/adult participant of \$13,703.

The average annual state amount spent on an adult accountability court participant is \$3,655. This is compared to annual incarceration amount of \$19,276 per/adult using the rate of \$52.81 per/day.



JUDICIAL COUNCIL OF GEORGIA FY 2023 AMENDED REQUEST FORM FY 2024 ENHANCEMENT REQUEST FORM

Our most recent analysis (data collected between 2013-2019 and includes a sample of 20,500 Georgia accountability court participants) shows that participant recidivism rates remain low compared to similarly situated offenders. As an example, for an adult felony drug court graduate, three years post completion, the rearrest rate for a new felony is 22%. For an adult mental health court graduate, it is 18%. The 2014 Georgia Prisoner Reentry initiative reports that similar situated offender (those that are moderate to high risk) have a 60-81% recidivism rate for a felony offense.

- c. What efficiencies will be realized?

The CACJ staff will be able to continue to offer MAT dedicated services to Georgia's accountability courts with this enhancement request.

Without this position, CACJ would not have the dedicated resources to support MAT programming, and therefore not be able to provide efficient training and technical assistance to accountability courts.

6. Stakeholders & Constituents:

- a. Describe the constituent and stakeholder groups affected by this change (e.g., board members, advocates/interest groups, service providers, other agencies, other governmental entities).

The Judicial Council/Administrative Office of the Courts, the Criminal Justice Coordinating Council, the Department of Corrections, the Department of Community Supervision, the Department of Behavioral Health & Developmental Disabilities, the Public Defenders Standards Council, the Prosecuting Attorneys' Council, the Georgia Division of Family and Child Services, the Council of Superior Court Judges, the Council of State Court Judges, and the Council of Juvenile Court Judges.

- b. Which are likely to support this request?

All of the above listed entities are likely to support the request, in that each is considered a stakeholder group for accountability courts.

- c. Which are likely to oppose this request?

It is believed that there will be no opposition to this request.



JUDICIAL COUNCIL OF GEORGIA FY 2023 AMENDED REQUEST FORM FY 2024 ENHANCEMENT REQUEST FORM

d. Which have not voiced support or opposition?

None.

7. Legislation or Rule Change:

a. Is legislation or a rule change required if this request is implemented? If so, please explain.

Legislation or a rule change is not required if this request is implemented.

b. Is this request a result of legislation or rule change? If so, please explain.

This request is not the result of legislation or a rule change.

8. Alternatives:

What alternatives were considered and why are they not viable?

The alternative is to apply for other federal funds to support the position after September 30, 2023. Additionally, CACJ has had some preliminary and informal discussion with the Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Disabilities about the distribution of the funds that will be made available through the statewide opioid settlement agreement (Senate Bill 500). At the time that this enhancement request was due, information about the distribution of these funds has not been made available to CACJ.

Part 2 - BUDGET

9. Requested and Projected Resources:

a. For enhancements and certain base adjustments, describe the additional resources are you requesting. **Ensure descriptions and amounts align with the budget chart on page 2.*

▪ Positions:

CACJ respectfully requests a full-time position. Please see the CACJ Statewide MAT Coordinator job description attached at the end of the enhancement request.

▪ Operational needs:

CACJ respectfully requests operating funds to support the full-time position request.



JUDICIAL COUNCIL OF GEORGIA FY 2023 AMENDED REQUEST FORM FY 2024 ENHANCEMENT REQUEST FORM

- b. What are your out-year projections?

\$129,775

(\$109,275 for personnel and \$20,500 for operations.)

10. Methodology/Assumptions:

- a. Provide the methodology and assumptions behind the requested amount and out-year projections.

The methodology used to generate the personnel request is based on the current employee in this position. The annual personnel amount is \$109,275. The amount requested in personnel represents three quarters of funding (\$81,956).

The methodology used to generate the operating costs are based on current office rent, estimated technical assistance visits, supplies and material costs, and equipment needed to support the position. The annual operating amount is \$20,500. The amount requested in operations represents three quarters of funding (\$15,375).

- b. How did you arrive at the amounts?

The amount was arrived at by reviewing the current salary for the Statewide MAT Coordinator position and current operating expenses.

- c. What time period does the request cover (i.e., the number of months)?

This request covers a portion of state FY2024. The dates are October 1, 2023 – June 30, 2023 (quarter #2 through quarter #4). The first quarter will be funded by the current BJA grant.

11. Federal and Other Funds: Describe the impact on federal and/or other funds related to this request (amount, policy, etc.).

Current federal funds that support this enhancement request end on September 30, 2023. No other federal funds or other funds will be impacted by this request at this time.



JUDICIAL COUNCIL OF GEORGIA FY 2023 AMENDED REQUEST FORM FY 2024 ENHANCEMENT REQUEST FORM

Part 3 - OTHER INFORMATION

12. Discuss any historical or other relevant factors that should be considered.

CACJ started its work to inform, educate, and train accountability courts on the usage of MAT in 2017 with a pilot project in the Northeastern Judicial Circuit and in the Western Judicial Circuit. The focus of the pilot was to begin to develop MAT programming and develop medical provider relationships. This work stemmed from the National Association of Drug Court Professionals (NADCP) Board of Directors resolution directing drug courts to learn the facts about MAT and obtain expert consultation from trained addiction psychiatrist or addiction physicians. Based on the 2017 pilot project, fiscal year 2019 federal funds were pursued and awarded to support expansion, to include the Statewide MAT Coordinator position. Since 2019, CACJ has worked to train the accountability court workforce on MAT best practices, develop relationships with provider networks (such as the federally qualified health care centers and community service boards), and provide technical assistance on how to implement and sustain MAT programming within an accountability court.

Should funds be provided for this enhancement request, CACJ will have the opportunity to continue this important work in all fifty judicial circuits within the state. CACJ has strategic plans to amend state standards, certification, and peer review to further incorporate MAT. Additionally, beginning in FY2023 CACJ will add four new MAT-related data elements that courts will be required to collect to further determine programming effectiveness. CACJ also has plans to train accountability courts on the use of OUD-specific participant assessments to ensure proper treatment planning and dosage.

Per Centers for Disease Control data from January 2022, Georgia saw a 29.4% increase in drug overdose deaths between June 2020 and June 2021. This enhancement request will support Georgia's ability to prevent overdose deaths among the accountability court population, contribute to cost savings, and continue to support low participant recidivism rates. As resources and education around medication-assisted treatment grow, judges and the courts are in a unique position to refer offenders to OUD treatment resources even if they do not participate in an accountability court program. Additionally, communities may benefit from the growth of local MAT resources and continued stakeholder engagement in the area of OUD treatment.

Amended FY 2023 - Budget Comparison

Judicial Council Standing Committee on Budget Report

Judicial Council Program & Subprograms	FY 2023 Budget	AFY23 Enhancement Requests	AFY 2023 Budget	% Change
Administrative Office of the Courts	\$ 8,562,139		\$ 8,632,139	0.82%
<i>Increase funds for the automated data collection project</i>		\$ 70,000		
Legal Services for Victims of Domestic Violence	\$ 3,000,000		\$ 3,000,000	
Legal Services for Kinship Care Families	\$ 750,000		\$ 750,000	
GA Council of Court Administrators	\$ 16,389		\$ 16,389	
Council of Municipal Court Judges	\$ 13,919		\$ 13,919	
Child Support Collaborative	\$ 134,425		\$ 134,425	
Council of Magistrate Court Judges	\$ 211,066		\$ 211,066	
Council of Probate Court Judges	\$ 205,754		\$ 205,754	
Council of State Court Judges	\$ 2,868,264		\$ 2,868,264	
Judicial Council Programs and Subprograms Total	\$ 15,761,955	\$ 70,000	\$15,831,955	0.44%
Other Programs				
Accountability Courts	\$ 812,318		\$ 812,318	
Inst of Continuing Jud Ed Operations	\$ 642,932		\$ 714,309	11.10%
<i>Increase funds for a salary adjustment for newly approved position</i>		\$ 7,300		
<i>Increase funds to fully fund ICJE's operational budget</i>		\$ 64,077		
Judicial Qualifications Commission	\$ 1,231,371		\$ 1,231,371	
Resource Center	\$ 800,000		\$ 800,000	
Other Programs Total	\$ 3,486,621	\$ 71,377	\$ 3,557,998	2.05%
Judicial Council Totals	\$ 19,248,576	\$ 141,377	\$19,389,953	0.73%

FY 2024 - Budget Comparison

Judicial Council Standing Committee on Budget Report

Judicial Council Program & Subprograms	FY 2023 Budget	FY24 Enhancement Requests	FY 2024 Budget	% Change
Administrative Office of the Courts	\$ 8,562,139		\$ 9,311,063	8.75%
<i>Increase funds for two policy positions for the AOC</i>		\$ 228,924		
<i>Increase funds for the automated data collection project</i>		\$ 20,000		
<i>Increase funds for self-help centers</i>		\$ 500,000		
Legal Services for Victims of Domestic Violence	\$ 3,000,000		\$ 3,000,000	
Legal Services for Kinship Care Families	\$ 750,000		\$ 750,000	
<i>Legal Services for Families of Indigent Patients</i>	\$ -	\$ 619,000	\$ 619,000	
<i>Increase funds Civil Legal Services for families of Indigent Patients</i>			\$ -	
GA Council of Court Administrators	\$ 16,389		\$ 16,389	
Council of Municipal Court Judges	\$ 13,919		\$ 13,919	
Child Support Collaborative	\$ 134,425		\$ 134,425	
Council of Magistrate Court Judges	\$ 211,066		\$ 211,066	
Council of Probate Court Judges	\$ 205,754		\$ 205,754	
Council of State Court Judges	\$ 2,868,264		\$ 2,868,264	
Judicial Council Programs and Subprograms Total	\$ 15,761,955	\$ 1,367,924	\$ 17,129,879	8.68%
Other Programs				
Accountability Courts	\$ 812,318		\$ 909,649	11.98%
<i>Increase funds for one MAT Statewide Coordinator position</i>		\$ 97,331		
Inst of Continuing Jud Ed Operations	\$ 642,932		\$ 799,212	24.31%
<i>Increase funds for a salary adjustment for newly approved position</i>		\$ 7,300		
<i>Increase funds to fully fund ICJE's operational budget</i>		\$ 148,980		
Judicial Qualifications Commission	\$ 1,231,371		\$ 1,231,371	
Resource Center	\$ 800,000		\$ 800,000	
Other Programs Total	\$ 3,486,621	\$ 253,611	\$ 3,740,232	7.27%
Judicial Council Totals	\$ 19,248,576	\$ 1,621,535	\$ 20,870,111	8.42%

TAB 4



Judicial Council of Georgia Administrative Office of the Courts

Chief Justice Michael P. Boggs
Chair

Cynthia H. Clanton
Director

Memorandum

TO: Judicial Council Members

FROM: Justice Charles J. Bethel
Chief Judge Russell Smith
Co-Chairs, Ad Hoc Committee on Judicial Salaries and Supplements

RE: Committee Report

DATE: July 28, 2022

As previously communicated to the Judicial Council by e-mail, the Committee was created on May 26, 2022, for the purposes outlined in the attached order. Subsequent orders were issued to add the Prosecuting Attorneys' Council and the Constitutional Officers Association of Georgia as advisory members. These orders and a committee roster are attached for your information.

The Committee held its first meeting on Tuesday, July 12, in a hybrid format from the Nathan Deal Judicial Center. The Committee discussed its charge, heard member feedback, received a presentation on the findings of the 2016 report of the Judicial, District Attorney, and Public Defender Compensation Commission as well as available updates, and discussed a plan for moving forward.

Three subcommittees have been established to organize the committee's work: Outreach and Feedback; Metrics and Measures; and, Trial Courts of Limited Jurisdiction.

The Committee plans to meet again in September and November and will provide an initial report to the Judicial Council at the December 9 General Session.



Judicial Council of Georgia **Administrative Office of the Courts**

Chief Justice David E. Nahmias
Chair

Cynthia H. Clanton
Director

Judicial Council of Georgia **Ad Hoc Committee on Judicial Salaries and Supplements**

In accordance with the Bylaws of the Judicial Council, ad hoc committees exist to address issues of limited scope and duration, and the Judicial Council Chair shall create and charge ad hoc committees as are necessary to conduct the business of the Judicial Council.

Under that authority, I hereby establish the Ad Hoc Committee on Judicial Salaries and Supplements. The charge of the committee shall be as follows:

1. To update and expand upon the December 16, 2016 report of the General Assembly's Judicial, District Attorney, and Circuit Public Defender Compensation Committee to reflect current amounts of state-paid salaries, state-paid salary supplements (e.g., for accountability courts), and county-paid salary supplements, as well as any state-paid or county-paid retirement benefits or other significant monetary benefits related to supplements, for Justices of the Supreme Court, Judges of the Court of Appeals, the Judge of the State-wide Business Court, superior court judges, district attorneys, and circuit public defenders, and to update comparisons to salaries for similar positions in other states;
2. To identify which county-paid officials' salaries or salary or retirement supplements are determined by reference to the salaries or supplements of superior court judges, district attorneys, or circuit public defenders, so as to better understand the consequences of changes to the compensation of state-paid officials;
3. To develop, evaluate, and recommend options for revising or eliminating the system of county-paid supplements, including the costs to the State and the counties of any options that are deemed practically and politically feasible, including by garnering supermajority support from the superior court judges.

The Ad Hoc Committee shall provide an initial report to the Judicial Council on these matters no later than December 15, 2022, unless the Committee determines that information on the matters related to charges 1 and 2 above that is needed to address charge 3 above is not reasonably available, in which case the Committee shall instead report on what Judicial Council, executive, and/or legislative action would be required to obtain such information.

Any and all proposals for legislation affecting the salary or supplements of a class of court that would affect the salaries or supplements of another class of court shall be first provided to the Ad Hoc Committee on Judicial Salaries and Supplements for consideration. Any recommendations

for legislation from the Ad Hoc Committee shall be presented to the Standing Committee on Legislation, which may then make recommendations to the full Judicial Council.

The following members are hereby appointed to the Ad Hoc Committee on Judicial Salaries and Supplements:

- Justice Charles J. Bethel, Supreme Court of Georgia, Co-Chair.
- Judge Russell (Rusty) Smith, Superior Court, Mountain Judicial Circuit, Co-Chair.
- One Judge of the Georgia Court of Appeals, chosen by the Chief Judge of the Court of Appeals.
- Georgia State-wide Business Court Judge, or a designee.
- Two Superior Court Judges -- one from a circuit with a salary supplement of more than \$50,000 and one from a circuit with a salary supplement below \$50,000 -- chosen by the President of the Council of Superior Court Judges.
- President of the District Attorneys' Association of Georgia, or a designee.
- Executive Director of the Georgia Public Defender Council, or a designee.
- Executive Director of the Association County Commissioners of Georgia (ACCG), or a designee.

In addition, designees from the following organizations are invited to participate as advisory members to the Committee:

- Council of State Court Judges.
- Council of Juvenile Court Judges.
- Council of Probate Court Judges.
- Council of Magistrate Court Judges.
- Council of Municipal Court Judges.
- Georgia Council of Court Administrators.
- Georgia Municipal Association.
- State Bar of Georgia.

Ad Hoc Committee membership may include additional advisory members appointed, as needed, by the Committee Co-Chairs. Advisory members may be heard but shall not be entitled to vote. The Administrative Office of the Courts shall provide staff support to the Committee.

The Ad Hoc Committee shall exist from June 1, 2022, until May 30, 2023, unless extended by further order.

So decided this 26th day of May, 2022.



Chief Justice David E. Nahmias
Chair, Judicial Council of Georgia

Michael P. Boggs
Presiding Justice Michael P. Boggs
Vice-Chair, Judicial Council of Georgia



Judicial Council of Georgia Administrative Office of the Courts

Chief Justice David E. Nahmias
Chair

Cynthia H. Clanton
Director


Judicial Council Ad Hoc Committee on Judicial Salaries and Supplements Advisory Member Appointment

In accordance with the bylaws of the Judicial Council, ad hoc committee membership may include advisory members appointed, as needed, by each ad hoc committee Chair. Advisory members may be heard but shall not be entitled to vote.

Therefore, a designee from the following organization is invited to participate as an advisory member to the Committee:

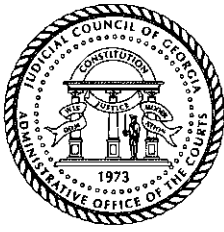
- Prosecuting Attorneys' Council of Georgia

So decided this 6 day of JUNE, 2022.



Justice Charles J. Bethel
Co-Chair, Ad Hoc Committee on Judicial Salaries and Supplements

Chief Judge Russell (Rusty) Smith
Co-Chair, Ad Hoc Committee on Judicial Salaries and Supplements



Judicial Council of Georgia Administrative Office of the Courts

Chief Justice David E. Nahmias
Chair

Cynthia H. Clanton
Director

Judicial Council Ad Hoc Committee on Judicial Salaries and Supplements Advisory Member Appointment

In accordance with the bylaws of the Judicial Council, ad hoc committee membership may include advisory members appointed, as needed, by each ad hoc committee Chair. Advisory members may be heard but shall not be entitled to vote.

Therefore, a designee from the following organization is invited to participate as an advisory member to the Committee:

- Prosecuting Attorneys' Council of Georgia

So decided this 10th day of June, 2022.

Justice Charles J. Bethel
Co-Chair, Ad Hoc Committee on Judicial Salaries and Supplements

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "R. Smith", is written over a horizontal line.

Chief Judge Russell (Rusty) Smith
Co-Chair, Ad Hoc Committee on Judicial Salaries and Supplements



Judicial Council of Georgia Administrative Office of the Courts

Chief Justice David E. Nahmias
Chair

Cynthia H. Clanton
Director

Judicial Council Ad Hoc Committee on Judicial Salaries and Supplements Advisory Member Appointment

In accordance with the bylaws of the Judicial Council, ad hoc committee membership may include advisory members appointed, as needed, by each ad hoc committee Chair. Advisory members may be heard but shall not be entitled to vote.

Therefore, a designee from the following organization is invited to participate as an advisory member to the Committee:

- Constitutional Officers Association of Georgia

So decided this 13th day of July, 2022.

Justice Charles J. Bethel
Co-Chair, Ad Hoc Committee on Judicial Salaries and Supplements

Chief Judge Russell (Rusty) Smith
Co-Chair, Ad Hoc Committee on Judicial Salaries and Supplements



Judicial Council of Georgia Administrative Office of the Courts

Chief Justice David E. Nahmias
Chair

Cynthia H. Clanton
Director

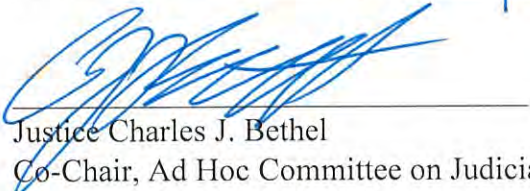
Judicial Council Ad Hoc Committee on Judicial Salaries and Supplements Advisory Member Appointment

In accordance with the bylaws of the Judicial Council, ad hoc committee membership may include advisory members appointed, as needed, by each ad hoc committee Chair. Advisory members may be heard but shall not be entitled to vote.

Therefore, a designee from the following organization is invited to participate as an advisory member to the Committee:

- Constitutional Officers Association of Georgia

So decided this 21st day of July, 2022.


Justice Charles J. Bethel
Co-Chair, Ad Hoc Committee on Judicial Salaries and Supplements

Chief Judge Russell (Rusty) Smith
Co-Chair, Ad Hoc Committee on Judicial Salaries and Supplements



Judicial Council of Georgia

Administrative Office of the Courts

Chief Justice Michael P. Boggs
Chair

Cynthia H. Clanton
Director

Judicial Council of Georgia Ad Hoc Committee on Judicial Salaries and Supplements

Member Roster

Justice Charles J. Bethel

Co-Chair
Supreme Court of Georgia
bethelc@gasupreme.us

Chief Judge Russell Smith

Co-Chair
Superior Court, Mountain Judicial Circuit
judgerussellsmith@gmail.com

Judge Trenton Brown

Court of Appeals of Georgia
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Judge Walter W. Davis

Georgia State-wide Business Court
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Judge Jeffrey H. Kight

Superior Court, Waycross Judicial Circuit
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Judge A. Gregory Poole

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greg.poole@cobbcounty.org

Mr. Darius Pattillo

District Attorneys' Association of Georgia
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Ms. Omotayo Alli

Georgia Public Defender Council
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Mr. Michael O'Quinn

Association County Commissioners of Georgia
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Advisory Members

Judge Alvin T. Wong

Council of State Court Judges
atwong@dekalbcountyga.gov

Judge Vincent Crawford

Council of Juvenile Court Judges
vccrawford@dekalbcountyga.gov

Judge Daisy Weeks-Marisko

Council of Probate Court Judges
dweeks-marisko@forsythco.com

Judge Connie Holt

Council of Magistrate Court Judges
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Judge Ryan Hope
Council of Municipal Court Judges
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Mr. Joshua Weeks
Georgia Council of Court Administrators
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Mr. DeMetris Causer
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Mr. J. Antonio DelCampo
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Mr. Peter J. Skandalakis
Prosecuting Attorneys' Council of Georgia
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TBD
Constitutional Officers Association of Georgia

Staff Contacts

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Judicial Council/Administrative Office of the Courts
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Andrew Zoll
Chief Budget Officer
Judicial Council/Administrative Office of the Courts
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TAB 5



Judicial Council of Georgia Administrative Office of the Courts

Chief Justice Michael P. Boggs
Chair

Cynthia H. Clanton
Director

Memorandum

TO: Judicial Council Members

FROM: Presiding Justice Nels S.D. Peterson
Chair, Standing Committee on Legislation

RE: Committee Report

DATE: July 22, 2022

On July 20, 2022, the Standing Committee on Legislation (“Committee”) met to begin preparation for the 2023 Session of the General Assembly. There were no new proposals presented for action. As a standard item, the Committee makes the following recommendation to the Judicial Council:

Authority to Act

The Committee requests approval to make decisions or take positions on legislation and related policy issues on behalf of the Judicial Council during the 2023 Legislative Session, when time constraints prevent the convening of the full Judicial Council.

The Committee plans to meet again in September and November.

TAB 6



Judicial Council of Georgia

Administrative Office of the Courts

Chief Justice Michael P. Boggs
Chair

Cynthia H. Clanton
Director

Memorandum

TO: Judicial Council

FROM: Chief Judge Robert Leonard II
Chair, Standing Committee on Judicial Workload Assessment

RE: Judicial Workload Assessment Committee Report

DATE: August 3, 2022

At its July 15, 2022 meeting, the Committee approved the following items for Judicial Council consideration:

1. Update to the Juvenile Court section of the Georgia Statistical Guide for Caseload Reporting.
2. New Judgeship Requests
 - a. Augusta Judicial Circuit
 - b. Dougherty Judicial Circuit
 - c. Douglas Judicial Circuit

Additionally, the Committee reviewed casecount updates, the new interactive caseload dashboards, and clearance rate awards. Also, the Committee heard reports from its subcommittees. Lastly, the Committee reminds the Council that there are five standing judgeship requests. The recommended circuits, per the Council's August 2020 meeting, are listed below by priority.

1. Coweta Judicial Circuit
2. Clayton Judicial Circuit
3. Atlantic Judicial Circuit
4. Northern Judicial Circuit
5. Atlanta Judicial Circuit

Section 4 – Juvenile Court [To the top](#)

Introduction

Jurisdiction of the juvenile courts extends to individuals under the age of 18 alleged to be dependent, alleged to be a child in need of services (CHINS), or alleged to have committed a juvenile traffic offense. Jurisdiction also extends to individuals alleged to have committed a delinquent act who is under the age of 17. Individuals up to the age of 23 may also be subject to juvenile court jurisdiction under certain circumstances. OCGA § 15-11-2(10).

In addition to matters alleging delinquency, dependency, CHINS, and the commission of a juvenile traffic offense, juvenile courts also have exclusive original jurisdiction over so-called special proceedings including proceedings for obtaining judicial consent to the marriage, employment, or enlistment in the armed services of any child if such consent is required by law; for permanent guardianship brought pursuant to provisions of the juvenile code; for the termination of parental rights when brought pursuant to provisions of the juvenile code; for emancipation; and for obtaining a waiver of the requirement of parental notice of abortion. OCGA § 15-11-10.

Juvenile courts have concurrent jurisdiction with superior courts in certain matters involving legitimation; child custody and support; temporary guardianship when properly transferred from probate court; and any criminal case properly transferred from superior court for the purpose of facilitating a parent's participation in a family treatment court division program. OCGA § 15-11-11 and § 15-11-15(d).

Certain specified violent offenses when committed by an individual under the age of 17 are within the exclusive jurisdiction of the superior court. Other specified offenses or combination of offenses otherwise under the exclusive jurisdiction of the juvenile court may be transferred under certain circumstances for prosecution in the superior court.

As required by Georgia law, detailed information regarding minor abortion petitions is also collected. The juvenile court reporting framework described in the Guide is used for reporting juvenile court caseload data.

Juvenile Court Definitions

Unit of Count

- For delinquency, CHINS, emancipation, traffic, and special proceeding cases count the juvenile and all allegations involved in a single incident as a single case. If the filing document contains multiple juveniles involved in a single incident, count each juvenile as a single and separate case.
- For dependency cases and termination of parental rights, count the petition as a single case. A dependency case that contains multiple parties (e.g. children/siblings) or multiple causes of action is counted as one case.
- For each case type, count the number of disposed cases that were disposed by the disposition types outlined in the docketing guidelines found on page 46 of the Juvenile Court Uniform Rules.

Children in Need of Services (CHINS):

A child adjudicated to be in need of care, guidance, counseling, structure, supervision, treatment, or rehabilitation and who is adjudicated to be:

- (i) Truant;
- (ii) Habitually disobedient, or a child who places himself or herself or others in unsafe circumstances;
- (iii) A runaway;
- (iv) A child who has committed a status offense;
- (v) A child who wanders or loiters about the streets of any city or in or about any highway or any public place between the hours of 12:00 Midnight and 5:00 A.M.;
- (vi) A child who disobeys the terms of supervision after adjudication as a child in need of services; or
- (vii) A child who patronizes any bar where alcoholic beverages are being sold, unaccompanied by his or her parent, guardian, or legal custodian, or who possesses alcoholic beverages; or

(B) A child who has committed a delinquent act and is adjudicated to be in need of supervision but not in need of treatment or rehabilitation.

OCGA § 15-11-2(11)

Delinquency - Class A Designated Felony: A delinquent act committed by a child 13 years of age or older, which if committed by an adult, would be one or more of the following crimes:

- Aggravated Battery- certain offenses

- Aggravated Assault - certain offenses
- Armed Robbery (without a firearm)
- Arson in the first degree
- Attempted Murder
- Escape – certain circumstances
- Hijacking a motor vehicle in the first degree
- Kidnapping
- Home invasion in the first degree
- Gang activity – certain circumstances such as violent felonies
- Drug trafficking - certain substances
- Specified offenses in combination with a prior record of felony offenses

OCGA § 15-11-2(12)

Delinquency – Class B Designated Felony: A delinquent act committed by a child 13 years of age or older, which if committed by an adult, would be one or more of the following crimes:

- Aggravated Assault – certain offenses
- Arson in the second degree
- Attempted Kidnapping
- Battery of a teacher or other school personnel
- Racketeering
- Robbery
- Home invasion in the second degree
- Gang activity – certain offenses such as graffiti or tagging
- Smash & Grab Burglary
- Certain offenses involving destructive devices or hoax destructive devices
- Obstruction of a law enforcement officer
- Possession of a handgun by an individual under the age of 18
- Possession of a weapon on school property or at school sponsored event

OCGA § 15-11-2(13)

Delinquency Not Designated: A count of cases not designated as either Class A or Class B felonies.

Dependency: Dependency cases are a subcategory of juvenile cases in which it is alleged that a child has been abused or neglected or is otherwise without proper parental care and/or supervision.

Emancipation: The release of a minor from his or her parents, which entails a complete relinquishment of the right to the care, control, custody, services, and earnings of such child and a repudiation of parental obligations.

Special Proceedings: A child who is the subject of a filing or disposition that does not fall within any of the above case types, e.g. request for permission to marry or join the armed services, notification of abortion, proceedings

relating to mental illness, legitimation, guardianship, transfer from probate court, transfers from superior court, and superior court referrals for custody investigations.

Traffic: An individual under 17 years of age who violates any motor vehicle law or local ordinance governing the operation of motor vehicles on the streets or highways or upon the waterways of the state of Georgia, excluding specified offenses deemed to be delinquent offenses as described by O.C.G.A. §15-11-630.

Termination of Parental Rights: An action on behalf of a child to end the rights and obligations of a parent on the grounds listed in O.C.G.A. §15-11-310.

Parental Notification of Abortion Total Petitions Filed: A count of petitions filed requesting the waiver of the requirement for parental notification of abortion.

Appointed Guardian Ad Litem: A count of cases involving a petition for waiver of parental notification of abortion in which the juvenile court appointed a guardian ad litem for the minor.

Court Appointed Counsel: A count of cases involving a petition for the waiver of parental notification of abortion in which the juvenile court appointed an attorney for the minor.

Without Notification: Cases in which the petitioner was granted a waiver of the parental notification requirement after notification was attempted but the parent or legal guardian of the minor could not be located.

Denied: A count of cases in which the court denied the petition to waive parental notification of abortion.

Appealed: A count of cases in which the petitioner appealed the juvenile court's denial of the petitioner's request for waiver of parental notification of abortion.

Affirmed: A count of cases appealed in which the juvenile court's denial of a petition for waiver of parental notification of abortion was affirmed.

Reversed: A count of cases appealed in which the juvenile court's denial of a petition for waiver of parental notification of abortion was reversed.

Juvenile Manners of Disposition

Delinquency or CHINS Dispositions

Adjudicated: A count of cases in which the court finds the child committed the offense (by admission or after trial).

Dismissed: A count of cases in which the complaint or petition is dismissed for any reason prior to trial or the court finds at trial that the child is not delinquent or a CHINS. Examples: (1) If the court found the child delinquent but found that the child was not in need of rehabilitation and dismissed the case. (2) If the court held the disposition open for a period of time and eventually dismissed the case. (3) If the court diverted the case.

Transferred to Another Juvenile Court: A count of cases in which the court transfers the case to

another juvenile court for trial.

Transferred to Superior Court: A count of cases in which the court transfers the case to superior court for trial

Informal Adjustment: A count of cases in which the offense is disposed of informally. If this option is selected, the “case disposition” will also be “informally adjusted.”

CHINS Protocol: A count of cases in which the offense is handled through the CHINS protocol and no petition is filed. If this option is selected, the “case disposition” will also be “CHINS protocol.”

Dependency Dispositions

Adjudicated: A count of cases in which the court finds the child is dependent.

Dismissed: A count of cases in which the court dismisses the case for any reason prior to trial or finds that the child is not dependent at trial.

Order entered: A count of cases in which the court enters an order following any hearing, other than the adjudication hearing, on a dependency case.

Traffic Dispositions

Adjudicated: A count of cases in which the court finds the child committed the offense (by admission or after trial).

Dismissed: A count of cases in which the complaint or petition is dismissed for any reason prior to trial or the court finds at trial that the child has not committed the traffic offense.

Informal Adjustment: A count of cases in which the offense is disposed of informally. If this option is selected, the “case disposition” will also be “informally adjusted.”

Special Proceedings, Termination of Parental Rights, and Emancipation Dispositions

Granted: A count of cases in which the court grants the petition.

Denied: A count of cases in which the court denies the petition.

Dismissed: A count of cases in which the court dismisses the case for any reason prior to trial or finds that the child is not dependent at trial.

Juvenile Case Characteristics

Dependency Dispositions

Case Entries Filed (Number of Juveniles): A count of the separate case entries and case

numbers that are assigned for each child. Though some of the children are listed on the same petition, each child will count separately here.

Order entered: A count of orders which the court enters following any hearing, other than the adjudication hearing, on a dependency case.

Special Proceedings Disposition

Order entered: A count of orders which the court enters following any hearing, other than the adjudication hearing, on a Special Proceedings case.

Termination of Parental Rights Dispositions

Order entered: A count of orders which the court enters following any hearing, other than the adjudication hearing, on a Termination of Parental Rights case.

Emancipation Dispositions

Order entered: A count of orders which the court enters following any hearing, other than the adjudication hearing, on a Emancipation case.

STANDING COMMITTEE ON JUDICIAL WORKLOAD ASSESSMENT

2022 Report on the Requests for an Additional Judgeship

Table of Contents

1. Augusta Judicial Circuit Request for an Additional Judgeship
 - a. 2021 Augusta Judicial Circuit Workload Assessment
 - b. Circuit Demographics and Case Statistics
 - c. Support Documentation for Augusta Circuit Additional Judgeship

2. Dougherty Judicial Circuit Request for an Additional Judgeship
 - a. 2021 Dougherty Judicial Circuit Workload Assessment
 - b. Circuit Demographics and Case Statistics
 - c. Support Documentation for Dougherty Circuit Additional Judgeship

3. Douglas Judicial Circuit Request for an Additional Judgeship
 - a. 2021 Douglas Judicial Circuit Workload Assessment
 - b. Circuit Demographics and Case Statistics
 - c. Support Documentation for Douglas Circuit Additional Judgeship

4. Existing Judgeship Requests (Letters of Support Only)
 - a. Clayton Judicial Circuit
 - b. Northern Judicial Circuit

Augusta Judicial Circuit

Augusta Judicial Circuit Assessment 2018-2019 and 2021

	3 Year Avg Case Filing	Minutes per Filing	Total Minutes
Criminal Defendants			
Death Penalty	0.00	4,342.00	0.00
Serious Felony	259.00	572.00	148,148.00
Felony	2044.67	54.00	110,412.00
Misdemeanor	117.33	20.00	2,346.67
Probation Petition	956.33	9.00	8,607.00
General Civil Cases			
Complex Tort	10.67	868.00	9,258.67
General Tort	190.00	100.00	19,000.00
Contract/Account	71.00	40.00	2,840.00
Real Property	152.00	40.00	6,080.00
Civil Appeals	17.67	42.00	742.00
Habeas Corpus	28.67	136.00	3,898.67
Other General Civil	1,285.67	29.00	37,284.33
Contempt/Modification	176.67	29.00	5,123.33
Domestic Relations Cases			
Adoption	79.00	55.00	4,345.00
Divorce/Alimony/Legitimation	922.00	65.00	59,930.00
Family Violence	461.67	41.00	18,928.33
Support	1,207.67	11.00	13,284.33
Other Domestic	519.67	45.00	23,385.00
Domestic Contempt	151.33	24.00	3,632.00
Domestic Modification	152.00	45.00	6,840.00
Special Cases			
Accountability Courts	84.00	495.00	41,580.00
Total	8,887	7,062	525,665.33

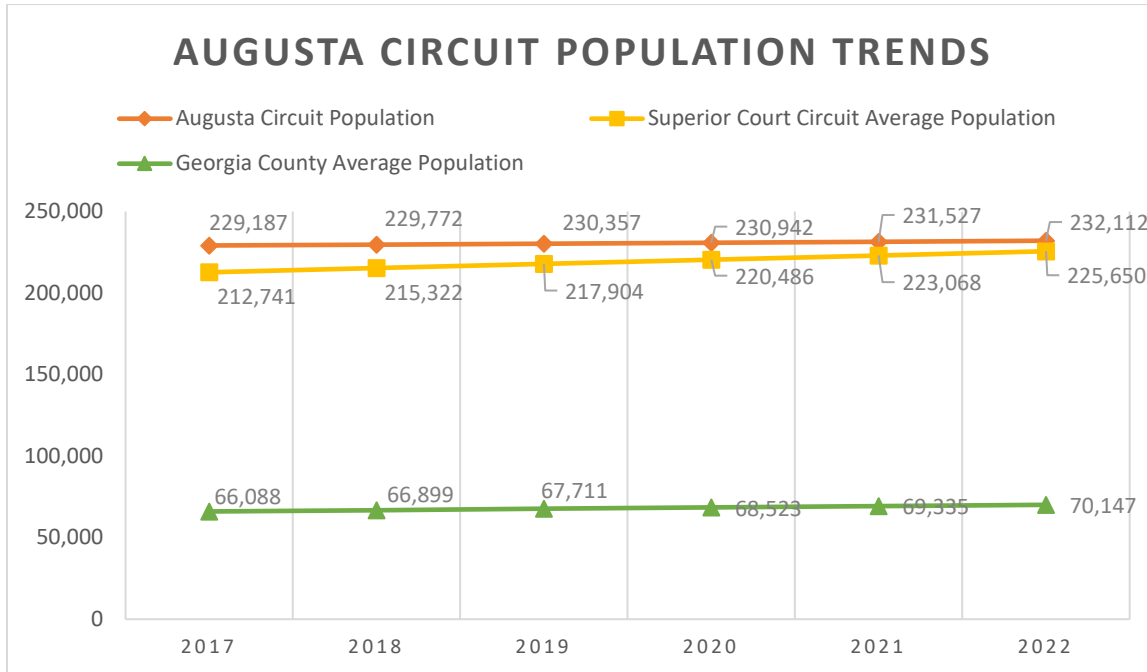
NOTES

1. Case averages are rounded to the nearest full number, except Death Penalty/Habeas.

Circuit Values	
Judges	5
Counties	2
Grand Total Minutes	525,665
Judge Year Value	77,400
Judge Workload Value	1.2
Threshold Value to Qualify	1.2
Status:	QUALIFIED

Section 2: Circuit Demographics and Case Statistics

Section 2-1: Population Change



*Population estimates data was drawn from the Governor's Office of Planning and Budget

The Augusta Circuit is a two-county circuit composed of Burke and Richmond Counties. The population within the Augusta Circuit has seen slight growth since 2017. In the six years shown, the Augusta Circuit has had a population increase of about 1.28%. As seen above, the population of the Augusta Circuit is significantly above the average county population but only slightly exceeds the circuit average population.

Section 2-1: Judicial Demographics

Augusta Judicial Circuit Judgeships

Superior Court Judges	State Court Judges	Juvenile Court Judges	Probate Court Judges	Magistrate Court Judges
5	5	3	3	7

Caseload Statistics

Three-Year Average Criminal Case Filings (2018-2019; 2021)

Death Penalty/ Habeas	Serious Felony	Felony	Misdemeanor	Probation Revocation	Accountability Court Participants	Total Criminal
0	259	2,044	117	956	84	3,460

Three-Year Average Civil Case Filings (2018-2019; 2021)

General Civil	Domestic Relations	Total Civil Cases
1,929	3,491	5,420

Workload Assessment (2018-2019; 2021)

Total Cases Filed	Judge Workload Value	Threshold Value
8,887	1.2	1.2



House of Representatives

SHEILA CLARK NELSON
REPRESENTATIVE, DISTRICT 125
P.O. BOX 5544
AUGUSTA, GEORGIA 30916
404-656-6372 (OFFICE)

COVERDELL LEGISLATIVE OFFICE BUILDING
ROOM 511-C
ATLANTA, GEORGIA 30334
SHEILA.NELSON@HOUSE.GA.GOV

STANDING COMMITTEES
Budget and Fiscal Affairs Oversight
Energy, Utilities & Telecommunications
Science and Technology

August 2, 2022

Judicial Council of Georgia
Administrative Office of the Courts
Suite 300
244 Washington Street SW
Atlanta, GA 30334

Dear Justice Boggs and Members of the Council:

This is to express my support for the recommendation of Standing Committee on Judicial Workload Assessment to add an additional judgeship to the Superior Court of the Augusta Judicial Circuit. As the Standing Committee's research has shown, the Augusta Circuit had already qualified for the addition of a judgeship before the Columbia County Circuit was created in 2021. The effect of the circuit split was to substantially increase that workload for the remaining judges in the Augusta Circuit.

Respectfully,

Representative Sheila Nelson
House District 125



JARED T. WILLIAMS
DISTRICT ATTORNEY
AUGUSTA JUDICIAL CIRCUIT

August 1, 2022

Judicial Council of Georgia
Administrative Office of the Courts
244 Washington Street SW - Suite 300
Atlanta, GA 30334

Via e-mail: judgeships@georgiacourts.gov

Re: Necessary Additional Judgeship for the Augusta Judicial Circuit

Dear Justice Boggs and Members of the Council:

This letter is to express my support for the recommendation of the Standing Committee on Judicial Workload Assessment to add an additional judgeship to the Superior Court of the Augusta Judicial Circuit. As the Standing Committee's research has shown, the Augusta Circuit had already qualified for the addition of a judgeship prior to the 2021 formation of the Columbia Circuit. The circuit split substantially increased the workload for the remaining judges in the Augusta Circuit.

The legislators supported the circuit split with a consensus understanding that the Augusta Circuit should be afforded at least one additional judgeship. I respectfully ask that legislation be passed to complete that final part of the legislative purpose.

Yours in Service,

Jared T. Williams
District Attorney
Augusta Judicial Circuit

AUGUSTA OFFICE * 735 JAMES BROWN BLVD, SUITE 2400 *AUGUSTA, GA 30901
(O) 706-821-1135 (F) 706-821-1237

WAYNESBORO OFFICE * 200 EAST SIXTH STREET * WAYNESBORO, GA 30830
(O) 762-225-6524

HAROLD V. JONES II
District 22
121-B State Capitol
Atlanta, Georgia 30334
Phone: (404) 656-0036
E-mail: harold.jones@senate.ga.gov



COMMITTEES:
Economic Development and Tourism
Ethics (Secretary)
Judiciary
Public Safety
Reapportionment and Redistricting
Rules

DEMOCRATIC MINORITY WHIP

The State Senate
Atlanta, Georgia 30334

August 2, 2022

Judicial Council of Georgia
Administrative Office of the Courts
Suite 300
244 Washington Street SW
Atlanta, GA 30334

Re: Additional Judgeship for the Augusta Judicial Circuit

Dear Justice Boggs and Members of the Council:

This is to express my support for the recommendation of Standing Committee on Judicial Workload Assessment to add an additional judgeship to the Superior Court of the Augusta Judicial Circuit. As the Standing Committee's research has shown, the Augusta Circuit had already qualified for the addition of a judgeship before the Columbia County Circuit was created in 2021. The effect of the circuit split was to substantially increase that workload for the remaining judges in the Augusta Circuit.

The legislators supported the circuit split with a consensus understanding that the Augusta Circuit should be afforded at least one additional judgeship. I therefore will support legislation to complete that final part of the legislative purpose.

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Harold V. Jones II".

Harold V. Jones, II
Senator, District 22



Office of the Public Defender
Augusta Judicial Circuit
902 Greene Street
Augusta, GA 30901
706-312-5105
www.gapubdef.org

August 3, 2022

Judicial Council of Georgia
Administrative Office of the Courts
244 Washington Street SW, Ste. 300
Atlanta, GA 30334

Via e-mail: judgeships@georgiacourts.gov

Re: Additional Judgeship for the Augusta Judicial Circuit

Dear Justice Boggs and Members of the Council:

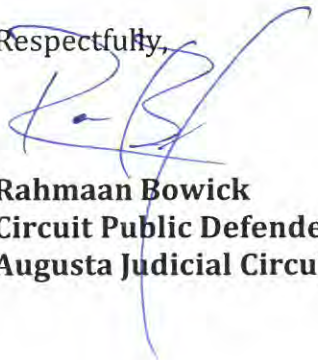
Please receive this letter in support of the recommendation of the Standing Committee on Judicial Workload Assessment to add an additional judgeship to the Superior Court of the Augusta Judicial Circuit.

As the Standing Committee's research has shown, the Augusta Circuit had already qualified for the addition of a judgeship before the Columbia County Circuit was created in 2021. The effect of the circuit split was to substantially increase that workload for the remaining judges in the Augusta Circuit.

The legislators supported the circuit split with a consensus understanding the Augusta Circuit should be afforded at least one additional judgeship.

Therefore, I will support legislation to complete that final part of the legislative purpose.

Respectfully,


Rahman Bowick
Circuit Public Defender
Augusta Judicial Circuit



Dougherty Judicial Circuit

Dougherty Judicial Circuit Assessment 2018-2019 and 2021

	3 Year Avg Case Filing	Minutes per Filing	Total Minutes
Criminal Defendants			
Death Penalty	0.67	4,342.00	2,894.67
Serious Felony	434.00	572.00	248,248.00
Felony	1562.33	54.00	84,366.00
Misdemeanor	241.00	20.00	4,820.00
Probation Petition	480.00	9.00	4,320.00
General Civil Cases			
Complex Tort	3.67	868.00	3,182.67
General Tort	74.67	100.00	7,466.67
Contract/Account	40.00	40.00	1,600.00
Real Property	33.67	40.00	1,346.67
Civil Appeals	20.33	42.00	854.00
Habeas Corpus	9.67	136.00	1,314.67
Other General Civil	119.00	29.00	3,451.00
Contempt/Modification	0.00	29.00	0.00
Domestic Relations Cases			
Adoption	14.00	55.00	770.00
Divorce/Alimony/Legitimation	269.67	65.00	17,528.33
Family Violence	86.67	41.00	3,553.33
Support	266.00	11.00	2,926.00
Other Domestic	38.67	45.00	1,740.00
Domestic Contempt	30.67	24.00	736.00
Domestic Modification	315.00	45.00	14,175.00
Special Cases			
Accountability Courts	13.33	495.00	6,600.00
Total	4,053	7,062.00	411,893.00

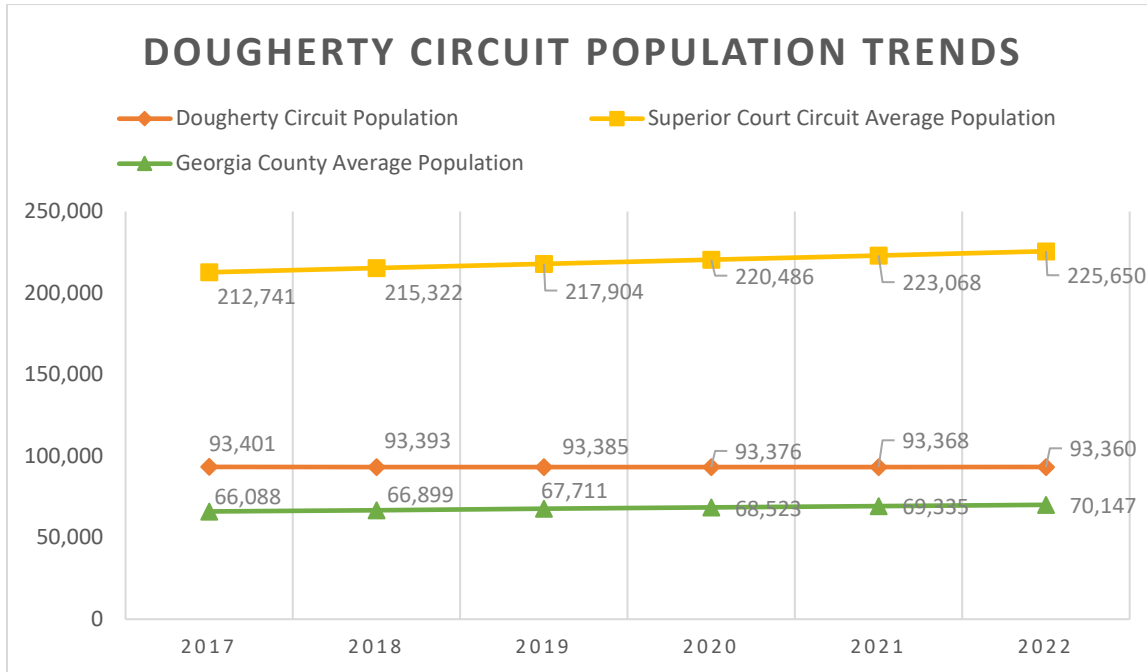
NOTES

1. Case averages are rounded to the nearest full number, except Death Penalty Habeas.

Circuit Values	
Judges	3
Counties	1
Grand Total Minutes	411,893
Judge Year Value	77,400
Judge Workload Value	1.8
Threshold Value to Qualify	1.2
Status:	QUALIFIED

Section 2: Circuit Demographics and Case Statistics

Section 2-1: Population Change



*Population estimates data was drawn from the Governor's Office of Planning and Budget

The Dougherty Circuit is a single-county circuit composed of Dougherty County only. The population within the Dougherty Circuit has seen a slight decline of less than 40 people within the last six years. As seen above, the population of the Dougherty Circuit is significantly above the average county population but only slightly exceeds the circuit average population.

Section 2-1: Judicial Demographics

Dougherty Judicial Circuit Judgeships

Superior Court Judges	State Court Judges	Juvenile Court Judges	Probate Court Judges	Magistrate Court Judges
3	1	2	1	3

Caseload Statistics

Three-Year Average Criminal Case Filings (2018-2019; 2021)

Death Penalty/ Habeas	Serious Felony	Felony	Misdemeanor	Probation Revocation	Accountability Court Participants	Total Criminal
.67	434	1,562	241	480	13	2,730.67

Three-Year Average Civil Case Filings (2018-2019; 2021)

General Civil	Domestic Relations	Total Civil Cases
302	1,018	1,320

Workload Assessment (2018-2019; 2021)

Total Cases Filed	Judge Workload Value	Threshold Value
4,053	1.8	1.2



Dougherty County Sheriff's Office

225 Pine Avenue · PO Box 1827 · Albany, GA 31701 · (229) 302-3600
Jail · 1302 Evelyn Avenue · Albany, GA 31705 · (229) 430-6500

Kevin R. Sproul, Sheriff

August 2, 2022

Judicial Council of Georgia
Administrative Office of the Courts
244 Washington Street, Suite 300
Atlanta, GA 30334

RE: Additional Judgeship Request for
The Dougherty Judicial Circuit

Dear Council Members,

I was pleased to learn that the Standing Committee on Judicial Workload Assessment has recommended to the Judicial Council to approve an additional Superior Court Judgeship for the Dougherty Judicial Circuit.

As Sheriff, I have been very concerned about the sharp rise in gun and gang-related violence in our community, especially since the onset of COVID-19. I believe the addition of another Superior Court Judgeship will greatly enhance our ability to prosecute cases and reduce our higher-than-state-average pretrial jail population. We would expect such an appointment to also significantly reduce delays in concluding civil and criminal proceedings as well as resolve serious criminal and complex civil matters in a timely manner.

Incidentally, the Dougherty Judicial Circuit has not been awarded an additional Superior Court Judgeship since 1995, under the leadership of Honorable Governor Zell Miller.

I whole-heartedly support the recommendation to approve an additional Superior Court Judgeship. Please let me know if there is anything I can do to further this recommendation.

Best regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Kevin R. Sproul". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Kevin R. Sproul, Sheriff
Dougherty County, Georgia



WEAVER LAW OFFICES, LLC

ATTORNEYS AT LAW

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f. 229.438.0674

911 Pine Avenue
P.O. Box 646
Albany, Georgia 31701

Willie C. Weaver, Sr., Attorney at Law
wweverlaw@aol.com

August 2, 2022

Judicial Council of Georgia
Administrative Office of the Courts
244 Washington Street, Suite 300
Atlanta, Georgia 30334

**RE: Dougherty Judicial Circuit
Additional Superior Court Judgeship Request**

Dear Council Members:

Dougherty Judicial Circuit is really in need of an additional Superior Court Judge. I have practiced and been a resident of this circuit for approximately thirty years. It is not surprising that the recent caseload information supports the need for an additional Superior Court Judgeship.

I have worked in this circuit as a private attorney, contract Public Defender and Municipal Court Judge. I have witnessed firsthand the increase in all type cases in this circuit. Dougherty County is deserving of your serious consideration for an additional judge and we look forward to your decision to assist our circuit.

With kindest personal regards, I remain

Yours very truly,

Willie C. Weaver, Sr.
Attorney at Law
President Council of Municipal Court Judges 2020-2021
Member Judicial Council of Georgia 2019-2021
Municipal Court Judge 2000-present



Georgia House of Representatives

CAMIA HOPSON

STATE REPRESENTATIVE DISTRICT 153

345 W. Broad Avenue #1175
Albany, GA 31701
(229) 513-1900 (Office)
E-Mail: CaMia.Hopson@House.Ga.Gov

Coverdell Legislative Office Building
Room 607-B
Atlanta, GA 30334
(404) 656-0287 (Office)
(404) 656-0250 (Fax)

Standing Committees:
Defense & Veterans Affairs
Special Rules
State Planning & Community Affairs

August 1, 2022

Judicial Council of Georgia
Administrative Offices of the Courts
244 Washington Street Suite 300
Atlanta, GA 30334

Re: Addition of a Superior Court Judgeship for the Dougherty Judicial Circuit

Dear Council Members,

As a Georgia State Representative for House District 153, I offer my fullest support for the addition of a Superior Court Judgeship for Dougherty County. With the overload of cases in the Dougherty County circuit, we can reduce our pretrial population, cut costs associated with this and allow for an overall benefit to the judges and staff.

Dougherty County has not been awarded additional support since 1995 yet it continues to be one of the most impacted circuits. The magnitude of changing this well-overdue addition would be most deserved and is required.

In summary, I lend my strongest support for this addition in order to ensure successful execution of service to the Dougherty County judicial circuit and community.

Regards,

CaMia Hopson
Georgia State Representative
House District 153



Christopher S. Cohilas

Chairman

**DOUGHERTY COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
OFFICE OF THE CHAIRMAN**

August 1, 2022

Judicial Council of Georgia
Administrative Office of the Courts
244 Washington Street, Suite 300
Atlanta, Georgia 30334

**RE: Dougherty Judicial Circuit
Additional Judgeship Request**

Dear Council Members:

The Dougherty County Board of Commissioners fully support the Dougherty Judicial Circuit's request for a fourth judgeship. We realize that this addition will enhance our Superior Court's ability to address the sharp rise in gun and gang-related violence and murders in our community, among many other benefits.

Additionally, with this approval, funding will be provided by the State to fund the salaries and benefits of the Superior Court Judge, an additional Assistant District Attorney, Public Defender, Judicial Assistant and possibly a Staff Attorney.

We appreciate your consideration of a fourth judgeship in the Dougherty Judicial Circuit.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Christopher S. Cohilas".

Christopher S. Cohilas



Dougherty Circuit Public Defender Office



Georgia
Public
Defender
COUNCIL

225 Pine Avenue, Suite 100
PO Box 1827
Albany, GA 31702-1827
(229) 483-6240

August 1, 2022

Judicial Council of Georgia

[emailed to: judgeships@georgiacourts.gov](mailto:judgeships@georgiacourts.gov)

Administrative Office of the Courts, 244 Washington Street SW, Atlanta, GA 30334

RE: Dougherty Judicial Circuit - Additional Judgeship

Dear Judicial Council Members:

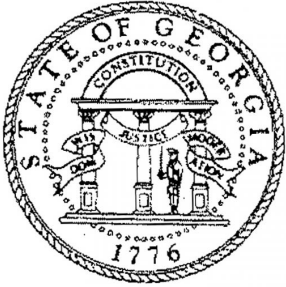
Our Dougherty Circuit Public Defender Office is in full support of the recommendation of a fourth Judgeship and we can attest to the need for an additional Dougherty Superior Court Judge. Over the years there has been a steady and concerning increase in felony criminal cases in the Dougherty Circuit, especially violent crimes and gun crimes. Additionally, felony criminal cases stemming from an epidemic of drug abuse and mental health problems continues to increase. The very large and growing felony criminal caseload in our circuit causes delays in the Court's time and ability to conduct jury trials and pre-trial motion hearings these cases need. A fourth Judgeship will greatly reduce these delays, and will also reduce the large pre-trial detention population that await their turn for felony jury trials and needed hearings. I have practiced law in our circuit since 1999 and have observed that we need an additional Judgeship so Dougherty Circuit can adequately manage the very large and increasing felony caseload.

We support and recommend an additional Dougherty Superior Court Judgeship and we thank you for your consideration of the needs of our circuit.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Troy Golden".

Troy Golden, Dougherty Circuit Public Defender
tgolden@dougherty.ga.us (229) 302-3769



GREGORY W. EDWARDS
District Attorney



DOUGHERTY JUDICIAL CIRCUIT
ALBANY DOUGHERTY JUDICIAL BUILDING
P. O. BOX 1827
ALBANY, GA. 31702-1827

SUPERIOR COURT DIVISION
CHIEF ASSISTANT
DISTRICT ATTORNEY
M. APRIL WYNNE

July 29, 2022

STATE COURT DIVISION
CHIEF ASSISTANT
DISTRICT ATTORNEY
KIMBERLY WESTLEY

Chairperson and Distinguished Members
Standing Committee
On Judicial Workload Assessment

Re: Addition of a Superior Court Judgeship for the Dougherty Judicial Circuit

Dear Committee Members,

Please accept this letter as the expression of my strong support for an additional Superior Court Judgeship in the Dougherty Judicial Circuit.

While the judges of our circuit have dispatched their duties with great integrity and exceedingly high efficiency, they now more than ever need the additional assistance of a fourth Superior Court judge. And I declare this assessment based on my experience and lifelong commitment to justice in our State.

I was first elected to the Office of District Attorney in Dougherty County in 2008, but I have served as a prosecutor in this office since 1990. Throughout this period, I have witnessed the steady increase on the workload of our three existing Superior Court Judges to a point where the interests of justice demand the creation of a fourth such seat on the Superior Court bench.

I complement you on recognizing that need and working diligently to secure such an additional seat of justice for our community. You have my gratitude and wholehearted support in this endeavor.

Thanking you for your time, attention and consideration, I remain,

Sincerely,

Gregory W. Edwards
District Attorney
Dougherty Judicial Circuit

FELONY DIVISION
229-431-3233
FAX 229-431-2167

MISDEMEANOR DIVISION
229-431-3212
FAX 229-878-3104

INVESTIGATION
229-431-3221
FAX 229-878-3132

VICTIM ASSISTANCE
229-438-3985
FAX 229-431-2167



MICHAEL L. FOWLER, SR. CFSP
DOUGHERTY COUNTY CORONER

Dear Council Members:

I, Michael L. Fowler, Dougherty County Coroner, stand in support for additional Superior Court Judgeship for the Dougherty Judicial Circuit. This decision is based on the most recent caseload analysis. As the Dougherty County Coroner, I can attest that there has been a tremendous increase in cases in Dougherty County alone. It is my understanding that the South Georgia Judicial Circuit serves 5 different counties with only two Judges to manage these cases. For obvious reasons the South Georgia Circuit should be approved for an additional Judge.

Thank you for your support and consideration of this request.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Michael L. Fowler", is written over a large, horizontal, oval-shaped scribble.

Michael L. Fowler
Dougherty County, Coroner

225 Pine Avenue
Room 105-2
Albany, Georgia 31702
USA

PHONE 229.438.3974
FAX 229.434.2693
EMAIL mfowler@dougherty.ga.us
WEB SITE www.albany.ga.us



GERALD GREENE

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

STANDING COMMITTEES:

REPRESENTATIVE, DISTRICT #151
5805 U.S. HWY 82 WEST
CUTHBERT, GEORGIA 39840
(229) 732-2750 (H)

STATE CAPITOL, ROOM 416
ATLANTA, GEORGIA 30334
(404) 656-9210
(404) 656-9310 (FAX)

APPROPRIATIONS
STATE PROPERTIES (Chairman)
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT & TOURISM
PUBLIC SAFETY & HOMELAND SECURITY
RETIREMENT
SPECIAL RULES
RULES

Email: gerald.greene@house.ga.gov

August 1, 2022

Judicial Council of Georgia
Administrative Office of the Courts
244 Washington Street, Suite 300
Atlanta, Georgia 30334

RE: Additional Superior Court Judgeship Request
For Dougherty Judicial Circuit

Dear Council Members:

I would like to offer my support for the Superior Court Dougherty Judicial Circuit for an additional judge. The workload assessment is showing the need for an additional judge. The study shows that Dougherty judicial circuit should be approved for an additional judge.

Thank you for your consideration and if I can provide more information, please contact me.

Sincerely,

Gerald Greene
State Representative
District 151

cc: Speaker David Ralston
Chairman Chuck Efration, GA House of Representatives
Senator Freddie Powell Sims, GA Senate
Judge Willie Lockett, Dougherty Judicial Circuit

DOUGHERTY COUNTY MAGISTRATE COURT
Room 310C, Albany-Dougherty Judicial Building
P. O. Box 1827
Albany, GA 31702-1827

BAXTER C. HOWELL
Chief Judge

TELEPHONE:
(229) 302-3702

MICHAEL MEYER VON BREMEN
VICTORIA M. JOHNSON
Judges

FAX:
(229) 446-2752

August 3, 2022

Judicial Council of Georgia
Standing Committee on Judicial Workload
Assessment
Via e-mail only judgeships@georgiacourts.gov

RE: Dougherty Judicial Circuit

To Whom it May Concern:

I write to urge support for an additional judgeship in the Dougherty Judicial Circuit. In my position, I have been involved in approving and signing felony criminal arrest warrants; reviewing and approving felony search warrants as well as conducting felony committal hearings (including RICO and GANG charges affiliated with violent crime) and first appearance hearings among several other tasks. In that regard, I am on the frontline seeing observing the circumstances we confront here in Dougherty County. In that regard, I have seen firsthand a huge spike in arrests for violent crimes and alleged gang activity in Dougherty County/Albany, Georgia. It has been shocking to me and others. The jail population has continued to increase and raises concerns. This has all created a significant backlog in all cases in Dougherty Superior Court. I still interact with the local bar members and hear many of those practicing in the civil arena voicing concerns about even being able to get on a pre-trial calendar.

A fourth Judge and additional Assistant District Attorney would really help to start turning this problem around and better serve the judicial system.

I spent 10 years in the legislature (Senate) and was on the appropriations and judiciary committees and was certainly aware of the criteria of what is involved

with approving a new Judge or new Judges for a circuit and did vote to approve many while I was there. I believe this circuit fills the criteria and again urge support of an additional Judge here in this circuit.

With kindest personal regards, I am,

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Michael S. Meyer von Bremen". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial "M" and "S".

Michael S. Meyer von Bremen
Judge, Magistrate Court
(and appointed/designated Assistant Superior Court Judge for certain matters)

CC: Judge Willie Lockette



270 Washington Street
Suite 6079
Atlanta, GA 30334
404-795-2440
www.gapubdef.org

August 2, 2022

Judicial Council of Georgia
Administrative Office of the Courts
244 Washington Street, Suite 300
Atlanta, Georgia 30334

RE: Dougherty Judicial Circuit, Additional Judgeship Request

Dear Council Members:

The Georgia Public Defender Council supports the Dougherty Judicial Circuit's request for a fourth judgeship. This addition will significantly enhance the Superior Court's ability to address new cases expeditiously, resolve backlogged pandemic cases, and proactively engage with the community.

Notably, approval of the request will provide additional State funding for salaries and benefits of the Superior Court Judge, a Judicial Assistant, an Assistant Public Defender, an Assistant District Attorney, and possibly a Staff Attorney. Approval would undoubtedly benefit all judicial stakeholders, including GPDC clients.

We appreciate your consideration of a fourth judgeship in the Dougherty Judicial Circuit.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Cohilas", written over a large, stylized flourish.

Christopher S. Cohilas
Chairman GPDC



From: Driskell, Ingrid <InDriskell@dougherty.ga.us>
Sent: Wednesday, August 3, 2022 5:00 PM
To: Judgeships@georgiacourts.gov
Subject:

[EXTERNAL EMAIL]

Judicial Council of Georgia
Administrative Office of the Courts
244 Washington Street, Suite 300
Atlanta, Georgia 30334

RE: Addition of a Superior Court Judgeship for the Dougherty Judicial Circuit

Dear Council Members:

I write this letter on behalf of the Dougherty Judicial Circuit and request that due consideration be given for approval of an additional Superior Court Judgeship for this Circuit. I returned home to Albany, Georgia as an attorney in 1998 and I served this community for over twenty (20) years as a litigator practicing primarily in Dougherty Superior Court. To say that the caseload has increased over the years is a considerable understatement.

An additional judgeship in the Dougherty Judicial Circuit will enhance our Courts' ability to address the sharp rise in gun and gang-related crimes, including murders, which has plagued our community for the past several years. In 2019, I had the pleasure of being appointed as the Associate Judge for the Dougherty Juvenile Court. In this capacity, I have witnessed, first hand, the increased numbers of gang related crimes committed in this circuit, by juvenile offenders. Due to the serious nature of the charges, an overwhelming number of these cases have been transferred to Superior Court. This influx of cases has overburdened an already saturated criminal docket in Dougherty County.

Thank you, in advance, for your consideration.

Sincerely,

INGRID P. DRISKELL
Associate Judge
Dougherty County Juvenile Court
Dougherty Judicial Circuit
(229) 302-3737 phone
(229) 483-7678 fax

PUBLIC RECORDS NOTICE: Georgia has a very broad public records law. Most written communications to or from City and County officials regarding City and County business are public records available to the public and media upon request. Your email communications may be subject to public disclosure.

From: Solomon, Herbie <HSolomon@dougherty.ga.us>
Sent: Wednesday, August 3, 2022 4:50 PM
To: Judgeships@georgiacourts.gov
Cc: Lockette, Willie <WLockette@dougherty.ga.us>
Subject: Dougherty Judicial Circuit; additional Judgeship

[EXTERNAL EMAIL]

Judicial Council of Georgia
Administrative Office of the courts
244 Washington Street
Atlanta, Ga.

To whom it may Concern:

I am writing in support of an additional Judicial appointment to the Dougherty Judicial Circuit. I am the senior Juvenile Court Judge and have been asked to serve as Judge Pro Tempore of the Superior Court when needed. The Dougherty Judicial Circuit currently has three Superior Court Judges and is in need of an additional position for the Superior Court. There is a back log of cases in the Court due to the increase in gang related cases and the Covid 19 pandemic.

I fully support this request for an additional Judgeship for the Dougherty Judicial circuit.

Sincerely;

Herbie L. Solomon
Judge Juvenile Court
Dougherty Judicial Circuit

PUBLIC RECORDS NOTICE: *Georgia has a very broad public records law. Most written communications to or from City and County officials regarding City and County business are public records available to the public and media upon request. Your email communications may be subject to public disclosure.*

Douglas Judicial Circuit

Douglas Judicial Circuit Assessment 2018-2019 and 2021

	3 Year Avg Case Filing	Minutes per Filing	Total Minutes
Criminal Defendants			
Death Penalty	0.67	4,342.00	2,894.67
Serious Felony	60.33	572.00	34,510.67
Felony	1453.67	54.00	78,498.00
Misdemeanor	324.67	20.00	6,493.33
Probation Petition	1789.00	9.00	16,101.00
General Civil Cases			
Complex Tort	0.67	868.00	578.67
General Tort	47.33	100.00	4,733.33
Contract/Account	242.00	40.00	9,680.00
Real Property	50.00	40.00	2,000.00
Civil Appeals	307.00	42.00	12,894.00
Habeas Corpus	8.33	136.00	1,133.33
Other General Civil	140.33	29.00	4,069.67
Contempt/Modification	0.00	29.00	0.00
Domestic Relations Cases			
Adoption	41.33	55.00	2,273.33
Divorce/Alimony/Legitimation	846.33	65.00	55,011.67
Family Violence	244.67	41.00	10,031.33
Support	386.33	11.00	4,249.67
Other Domestic	151.67	45.00	6,825.00
Domestic Contempt	202.00	24.00	4,848.00
Domestic Modification	134.67	45.00	6,060.00
Special Cases			
Accountability Courts	55.00	495.00	27,225.00
Total	6,486	7,062.00	290,110.67

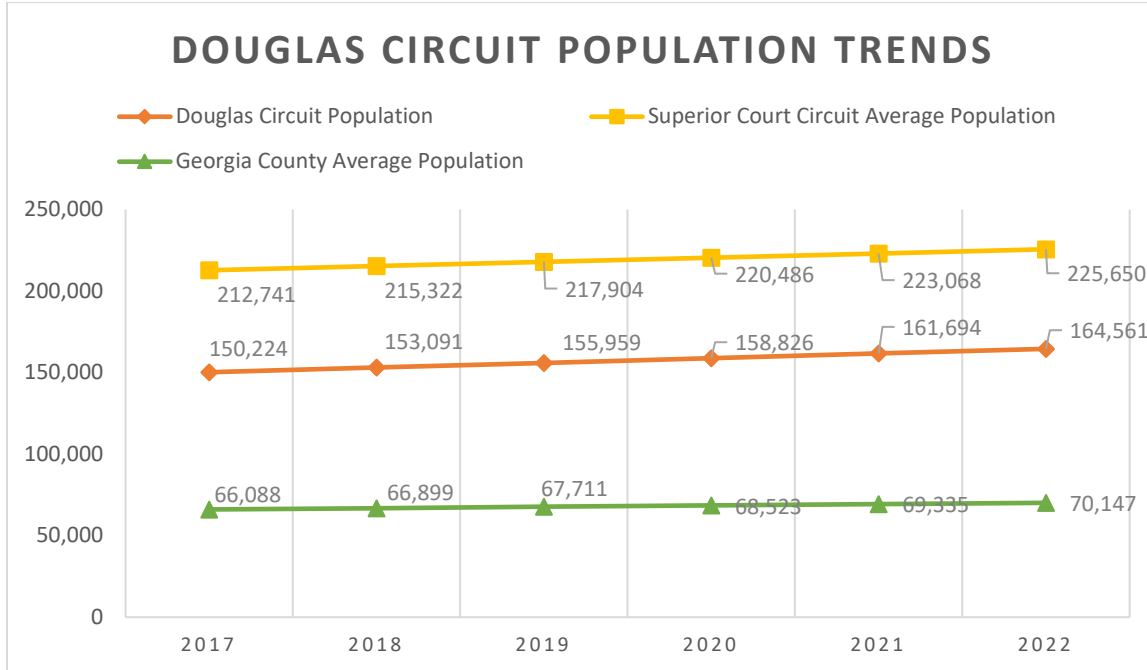
NOTES

1. Case averages are rounded to the nearest full number, except Death Penalty Habeas.

Circuit Values	
Judges	3
Counties	1
Grand Total Minutes	290,111
Judge Year Value	77,400
Judge Workload Value	1.2
Threshold Value to Qualify	1.2
Status:	QUALIFIED

Section 2: Circuit Demographics and Case Statistics

Section 2-1: Population Change



*Population estimates data was drawn from the Governor's Office of Planning and Budget

The Douglas Circuit is a single-county circuit composed of Douglas County only. The population within the Douglas Circuit has seen an incline of 9.54% in the last six years. As seen above, the population of the Douglas Circuit is significantly above the average county population but only slightly exceeds the circuit average population.

Section 2-1: Judicial Demographics

Douglas Judicial Circuit Judgeships

Superior Court Judges	State Court Judges	Juvenile Court Judges	Probate Court Judges	Magistrate Court Judges
3	2	2	1	3

Caseload Statistics

Three-Year Average Criminal Case Filings (2018-2019; 2021)

Death Penalty/ Habeas	Serious Felony	Felony	Misdemeanor	Probation Revocation	Accountability Court Participants	Total Criminal
.67	60	1,453	324	1,789	55	3,681.67

Three-Year Average Civil Case Filings (2018-2019; 2021)

General Civil	Domestic Relations	Total Civil Cases
796	2,007	2,803

Workload Assessment (2018-2019; 2021)

Total Cases Filed	Judge Workload Value	Threshold Value
6,486	1.2	1.2



OFFICE OF THE MAYOR ROCHELLE ROBINSON

July 26, 2022

Chief Justice Michael P. Boggs, Chair
Judicial Council of Georgia
Nathan Deal Judicial Center
330 Capitol Avenue SE
1st Floor Suite 1100
Atlanta, GA 30334

RE: Fourth Superior Court Judge Douglas County

Dear Chief Justice Boggs:

On behalf of the citizens of the city of Douglasville, it is my pleasure to enthusiastically support our pending request for a fourth Superior Court Judge.

In the quarter century since our last such judgeship was approved, our city has transitioned from a rural bedroom community into an up and coming part of the Atlanta metro area.

With everything from our new conference center built and in use, to a comprehensive re-development of our downtown area underway, we know that our growth will continue to outpace our judicial resources—which has already occurred. **Our judges inform me that over the past three years, only one county in the State has more cases per judge than Douglas.**

Finally, as you consider this request with your colleagues, be assured that the working relationship of local government with the Superior Court could not be better, and we stand ready to do what is needed to accommodate a fourth judge if same is granted to us.

Sincerely,

Rochelle Robinson, Mayor

City of Douglasville, Georgia



DOUGLAS COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

8700 Hospital Drive • Douglasville, GA 30134 • Telephone (770) 920-7269 • Fax (770) 920-7357

July 25, 2022

Dr. ROMONA JACKSON JONES

Chairman

Chief Justice Michael P. Boggs, Chair

Judicial Council of Georgia

Nathan Deal Judicial Center

330 Capitol Avenue SE

1st Floor Suite 1100

Atlanta, GA 30334

RE: Fourth Superior Court Judge Douglas County

Dear Chief Justice Boggs:

On behalf of the citizens of Douglas County, it is my pleasure to enthusiastically support our pending request for a fourth Superior Court Judge.

In the quarter century since our last judgeship was approved, Douglas County has nearly doubled in population, moving from small and rural to an up and coming part of the Atlanta metro, with Google and Microsoft locating critical parts of their infrastructure here. As I write this letter, we have almost 6,000 residential units under construction. Many more are in in the planning process.

With everything from a new resort hotel complex, four motion picture sound stages and a comprehensive re-development of our downtown area underway, we are know that our growth will continue to outpace our judicial resources—which has already occurred. **Our judges inform me that over the past three years, only one county in the State has more cases per judge than Douglas.**

Finally, as you consider this request with your colleagues, be assured that the working relationship of local government with the Superior Court could not be better, and we stand ready to do what is needed to accommodate a fourth judge if same is granted to us.

Sincerely,

Dr. Romona Jackson-Jones, Chair

Douglas County Board of Commissioners

Clayton Judicial Circuit

VALENCIA SEAY
District 34
420 State Capitol
Atlanta, Georgia 30334-2000
Tel: (404) 656-5095
Fax: (404) 657-9728



COMMITTEES:
Appropriations
Government Oversight
Public Safety
Science and Technology, Secretary
Transportation, Ex Officio

The State Senate
Atlanta, Georgia 30334

August 2, 2022

Judicial Council of Georgia
c/o Cynthia J. Clanton, Director
Administrative Office of the Courts
244 Washington St SW, Ste 300
Atlanta, GA 30334

Dear Mrs. Clanton,

The Clayton Judicial Circuit has requested a sixth judgeship. According to the data presented by the Judicial Workload Assessment Committee, the Superior Court of Clayton County has a caseload of 7.3 judges. Access to justice is paramount for all citizens. It is for this reason that I support the Clayton Circuit's request for an additional judgeship.

I would like to thank the Judicial Council of Georgia for conducting a thorough assessment of the Clayton Judicial Circuit. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact me at 404-274-3075 or my office at 404-656-5095.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Senator Valencia Seay".

Senator Valencia Seay
District 34



House of Representatives

COVERDELL LEGISLATIVE OFFICE BUILDING
ROOM #507 D
ATLANTA, GEORGIA 30334
(404) 656-0202

DEBRA BAZEMORE
REPRESENTATIVE, DISTRICT 63
7042 GALLOWAY POINTE
RIVERDALE, GEORGIA 30296
E-MAIL: debra.bazemore@house.ga.gov

STANDING COMMITTEES:
HUMAN RELATIONS & AGING
INTRAGOVERNMENTAL COORDINATION
NATURAL RESOURCES & ENVIRONMENT
STATE PLANNING & COMMUNITY AFFAIRS

August 2, 2022

Mrs. Cynthia H. Clanton, Director
Judicial Council of Georgia
Administrative Office of the Courts
244 Washington Street SW, Ste. 300
Atlanta, GA 30334

Dear Mrs. Clanton,

I would like to thank the Judicial Council of Georgia for conducting a thorough assessment of the Clayton Judicial Circuit. It is imperative that the Clayton Judicial Circuit can adequately allocate time and services to each case.

Given the increasing workload of our current superior court judges and support staff, I would like to respectfully recommend an additional superior court judgeship for the Clayton Circuit. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact me directly at (770)871-8983.

Sincerely,

Debra Bazemore
State Representative, District 63



House of Representatives

RHONDA M. BURNOUGH
REPRESENTATIVE, DISTRICT 77
7843 CLEARVIEW CIRCLE
RIVERDALE, GEORGIA 30296
EMAIL: rhonda.burnough@house.ga.gov

COVERDELL LEGISLATIVE OFFICE BUILDING, ROOM 409 C
ATLANTA, GEORGIA 30334
(404) 656-0116
(404) 656 656-0250 (FAX)

STANDING COMMITTEES:
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT
& TOURISM
GOVERNMENTAL AFFAIRS
HIGHER EDUCATION
SMALL BUSINESS
DEVELOPMENT
SPECIAL ELECTION INTEGRITY COMMITTEE

August 2, 2022

Judicial Council of Georgia
c/o Cynthia H. Clanton, Director
Administrative Office of the Courts
244 Washington St SW, Ste 300
Atlanta GA 30334

Dear Ms. Clanton:

I would like to thank the Judicial Council of Georgia for conducting a thorough assessment of the Clayton Judicial Circuit. It is imperative that the Clayton County Judicial Circuit can adequately allocate time and services to each case.

During the 2020 session, the data showed that our Circuit's workload was that of 6.9 judges. The current data shows a workload of 7.3 judges. As you know, our Circuit only has 5 superior court judgeships.

Given the increasing workload of our current superior court judges and support staff, I would like to respectfully recommend an additional superior court judgeship for the Clayton Judicial Circuit.

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact me directly at (404) 656-0116.

Respectfully,

Rhonda M. Burnough

State Representative Rhonda M. Burnough
Georgia House District 77
Chair, Clayton County Legislative Delegation

RMB/



House of Representatives

MIKE GLANTON SR
REPRESENTATIVE, DISTRICT 75
POST OFFICE BOX 216
JONESBORO, GA 30236
(678) 479-7730 (DISTRICT)
(404) 657-1803 (OFFICE)
(404) 651-8086 (FAX)
E-MAIL: mikeglanton@mikeglanton.com

18 CAPITOL SQUARE, SW
COVERDELL LEGISLATIVE OFFICE BUILDING, SUITE 408 D
ATLANTA, GEORGIA 30334

STANDING COMMITTEES:
VICE-CHAIRMAN
APPROPRIATIONS- EDUCATION
DEFENSE & VETERAN'S AFFAIRS
PUBLIC SAFETY & HOMELAND SECURITY
EDUCATION
MARTOC

Judicial Council of Georgia
c/o Cynthia H. Clanton, Director
Administrative Office of the Courts
244 Washington St SW, Ste 300
Atlanta GA 30334

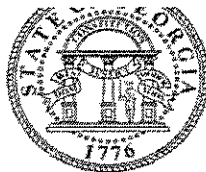
I submit this letter of support for the request of an additional judgeship for the Clayton Judicial Circuit. I have reviewed the request and workload assessments. It is in my opinion, while our current judges are doing great works, the county is growing and the already burdened workload is expeditiously increasing.

It is for these and other reasons I wholeheartedly support the request and ask for your full and favorable consideration.

I respectfully recommend an additional superior court judgeship for the Clayton Judicial Circuit. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact me at (404) 657-1803.

Sincerely,

Honorable Mike Glanton, Sr
Georgia General Assembly



House of Representatives

Yasmin Neal

STANDING

COVERDELL LEGISLATIVE OFFICE BUILDING, ROOM

511F

COMMITTEES:

REPRESENTATIVE, DISTRICT 74

ATLANTA, GEORGIA 30334

(404) 656-6372 (O)

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT &

TOURISM

E-MAIL: yasmin.neal@house.ga.gov

JUVENILE JUSTICE

PUBLIC SAFETY & HOMELAND SECURITY

August 2, 2022

Judicial Council of Georgia
c/o Cynthia H. Clanton, Director
Administrative Office of the Courts
244 Washington St., SW, Ste 300
Atlanta, GA 30334

Dear Ms. Clanton,

I submit this letter of support of an additional judgeship for the Clayton Judicial Circuit. I have reviewed the request and workload assessments. As I have been contacted by various citizens in reference to the need for additional judicial support, I understand the needs of this county and the need for additional support. The county is growing and the workload is increasing; we desperately need the additional support.

I respectfully request additional superior court judgeships for the Clayton Judicial Circuit. I kindly ask that you forward this letter of recommendation along with any others that may be sent to Chief Justice Boggs and the Judicial Council. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact me directly at 678-656-6589 or reach me at my Capitol Office at 404-656-6372.

Respectfully,

Representative Yasmin Neal
Ga House of Representatives
Clayton County District 74
New District #79 as of Jan 2023.



House of Representatives

KIM SCHOFIELD
REPRESENTATIVE, DISTRICT 00
PO BOX 181555
Atlanta, GA 30321
Kim.schofield@house.ga.gov

COVERDELL LEGISLATIVE OFFICE BUILDING
ROOM 509
ATLANTA, GEORGIA 30334
(404) 656-0220 office
(404) 349-7780 fax

STANDING COMMITTEES:
SMALL BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT
HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES
INFORMATION & AUDITS
INTERSTATE COOPERATION

August 2, 2022

Judicial Council of Georgia
c/o Cynthia H. Clanton, Director
Administrative Office of the Courts
244 Washington St SW, Ste. 300
Atlanta, GA 30334

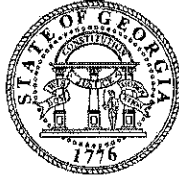
Dear Dir. Clayton,

I would like to thank the Judicial Council of Georgia for conducting a thorough assessment of the Clayton Judicial circuit. It is imperative that the Judicial Circuit can adequately allocate time and services to each case.

Given the increasing workload of our current superior court judges and staff, I would like to respectfully recommend an additional superior court judgeship for the Clayton Circuit. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact me directly at 404-656-0220.

Respectfully,

Rep. Kim Schofield
D60 Georgia General Assembly



House of Representatives

SANDRA SCOTT
REPRESENTATIVE, DISTRICT 76
18 CAPITOL SQUARE, GLOB 611
ATLANTA, GEORGIA 30334
(678) 283-7149 (C)

EMAIL: sandragivensscott@gmail.com

COVERDELL LEGISLATIVE OFFICE BUILDING

(404) 656-0314
(404) 656-0250 (FAX)

STANDING
COMMITTEES:
DEFENSE & VETERANS AFFAIRS
HUMAN RELATIONS & AGING
REAPPORTIONMENT
SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY
SPECIAL RULES

August 3, 2022

Cynthia H. Clanton, Director
Judicial Council of Georgia
Administrative Office of the Courts
244 Washington St SW, Suite 300
Atlanta, GA 30334

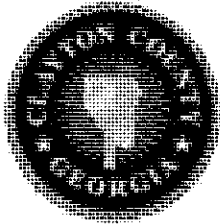
Dear Ms. Clanton,

I would like to thank the Judicial Council of Georgia for conducting a thorough assessment of the Clayton Judicial Circuit. It is imperative that the Clayton Judicial Circuit can adequately allocate time and services to each case.

Given the increasing workload of our current superior court judges and support staff, I would like to respectfully recommend an additional superior court judgeship for the Clayton Circuit. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact me directly at 678-283-7149.

Respectfully,

Representative Sandra G. Scott
House District 76



Jeffrey E. Turner
Chairman
Clayton County Board of Commissioners
☎ 770.472.8122
☎ 770.477.3217
✉ katrina.holloway@claytoncountyga.gov

Board of Commissioners

August 3, 2022

Judicial Council of Georgia
c/o Cynthia H. Clanton, Director
Administrative Office of the Courts
244 Washington St SW, Ste 300
Atlanta GA 30334

Re: Letter of Support for Clayton Judicial Circuit 6th Judgeship

Dear Director Clanton,

This letter is to show my support for the need for a 6th judgeship in the Clayton Judicial Circuit. This request is deemed warranted due to the Judicial Council's Standing Committee on Judicial Workload Assessment study, which indicates that our current 5 superior court judges have a caseload of 7.3. It is imperative that the citizens of Clayton County have their judicial matters handled expeditiously.

The Clayton County Board of Commissioners understands that adding a 6th judgeship would assist in providing expedient service to the citizens in Clayton County. We support the addition of a 6th judgeship for the Clayton Judicial Circuit.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jeffrey E. Turner", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Jeffrey E. Turner, Chairman
Clayton County Board of Commissioners



TASHA M. MOSLEY

District Attorney
Clayton Judicial Circuit



August 3, 2022

Judicial Council of Georgia
c/o Cynthia H. Clanton, Director
Administrative Office of the Courts
244 Washington St SW, Ste 300
Atlanta, GA 30334

RE: Support for Clayton Judicial Circuit Sixth Judge

Dear Director Clanton,

As District Attorney in the Clayton Judicial Circuit, my staff and I are directly impacted by the county's ever-growing felony caseload. The addition of a sixth judgeship would lessen the massive caseload of each judge and therefore each prosecutor. There is a huge difference between a judge carrying 20% of the criminal case load versus approximately 16.6% of the criminal case load. A sixth judge in the Clayton Judicial circuit would also greatly benefit the citizens of Clayton County by enabling us to move criminal cases through the judicial system more quickly. For these reasons, I am in full support of the addition of a sixth judgeship for the Clayton Judicial Circuit.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, consisting of several stylized, connected strokes.

Tasha M. Mosley
District Attorney
Clayton Judicial Circuit



Clayton County SHERIFF'S OFFICE

Victor Hill
Sheriff

August 1st, 2022

Judicial Council
C/O Cynthia H. Clanton, Director
Administrative Office of the Courts
244 Washington Street SW, Ste 300
Atlanta, Georgia 30334

Reference: Letter of Support for Clayton Judicial Circuit Sixth Judgeship

Director Cynthia H. Clanton,

This letter is to support the request and need for a sixth judgeship in the Clayton Judicial Circuit. This request is deemed warranted due to the Judicial Council's Standing Committee on Judicial Workload Assessment study, which indicates that our current five superior court judges have a caseload of 7.3. It is imperative that the citizens of Clayton County have their judicial matters handled in a proficient and expeditious manner.

The Clayton County Sheriff's Office understands that adding the sixth judgeship would assist in providing an expedient service to the citizens of Clayton County. We support the addition of the sixth judgeship for the Clayton County Judicial Circuit.

Sincerely,

Roland Boehrer
Chief Deputy – Interim Sheriff
Clayton County Sheriff's Office



GEORGIA
PUBLIC
DEFENDER
COUNCIL

Clayton Judicial Circuit

Alfonso D. Kraft Jr.
Circuit Public Defender

1590 Adamson Parkway
Suite 370
Morrow, GA 30260
678-479-5036

Tuesday, August 2, 2022

Judicial Council of Georgia
c/o Cynthia H. Clanton, Director
Administrative Office of the Courts
244 Washington St. SW, Ste 300
Atlanta, GA 30334

Re: *Letter in Support for a 6th Superior Court Judge for the Clayton Judicial Circuit*

Dear Director Clanton,

According to the most recent Superior Court workload assessment by the Judicial Council, only two judicial circuits have a higher Workload Value Per Judge than the Clayton Judicial Circuit. Furthermore, the Clayton Judicial Circuit has the highest Workload Value Per Judge among the Metro-Atlanta judicial circuits.

Despite the diligent, resourceful, and extremely competent work of the judiciary of the Clayton Judicial Circuit that remains ongoing, your numbers show that our circuit is hamstrung in its ability to ensure that the citizens of Clayton County have fair and efficient access to the court system.

As the director of the Clayton Circuit Public Defender's Office, I see how these numbers affect our clients in real terms. Our clients endure longer waits in an already overcrowded jail for their cases to be resolved. Our assistant public defenders face caseloads that are anywhere from 250 to 350 percent of the American Bar Association's recommended 150 case maximum for public defenders.

The addition of a sixth judgeship will reduce the workload of our Superior Court Judges and their staff, the staff of both the District Attorney and the Public Defender, and will help address our overcrowded jail.

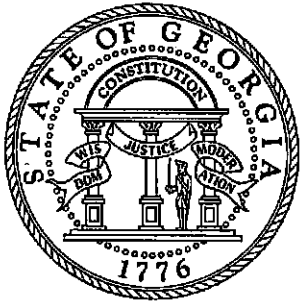
For the above reasons, I am in full support of the addition of a 6th Superior Court judgeship for the Clayton Judicial Circuit.

Sincerely,

Alfonso D. Kraft Jr

Alfonso D. Kraft Jr., Director
Clayton Circuit Public Defender

Northern Judicial Circuit



ELBERT COUNTY CLERK OF COURT

LEIGH W. STARRETT, CLERK

Elbert County Historic Courthouse
12 S. Oliver Street
P. O. Box 619
Elberton, GA 30635

Phone: 706-283-2005
Fax: 706-213-7286

Email: leigh.starrett@gsccca.org

July 28, 2022

VIA EMAIL: judgeship@georgiacourts.gov

Standing Committee on Judicial Workload Assessment
c/o Administrative Office of the Courts
244 Washington St., SW, Suite 300
Atlanta, GA

Dear Standing Committee Members:

It is my understanding that the Northern Judicial Circuit's workload value per Judge would qualify our circuit to be considered for an additional Judge. I am writing this letter to let you know that I am very much in support of the necessity of this additional Judgeship.

Our Judges have an extremely hectic schedule traveling the five counties in our circuit – Elbert, Franklin, Madison, Oglethorpe and Hart. It is a common occurrence to have two courts scheduled in two counties per day. For example, one of our Judges may have civil motions scheduled in Elbert County in the morning and then have bond motions scheduled in the afternoon in Hart County. The distance between Elbert County and Hart County is twenty-two miles. This is the shortest trek. The distance between other counties in our circuit is even farther away.

Our Judges instituted a policy for the Clerks in each county to handle obtaining TPOs because the Petitioners were having to drive to different Counties to locate a Judge. It was difficult to know when a Judge may finish on the bench and head to another County. Now, if we don't have a Judge to review them in our county that day, the Clerks' Offices email the petitions in order for the Judge to review them. Even with this policy, the Judges are most often on the bench and cannot break away in the middle of a hearing or trial. The Petitioner is still waiting long time periods because of the extremely busy schedule of our Judges. And, of course, if this is near the end of the day, the TPO petitioners are waiting well past 5:00 to finish the lengthy TPO process.

Another particular problem our Judges have is scheduling "special set" hearings. In our circuit, hearings scheduled for a civil motion day calendar are to be heard in approximately forty-five minutes. If it is expected to take longer, attorneys are asked to have it specially set. The problem is that our Judges have so few days that they are not in Court, that it is difficult for the Judges' assistants to find a day to schedule these hearings. Sometimes it can take months to have a full hearing.

Superior, State and Juvenile Courts

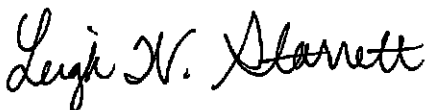
I have been in the Clerk's Office since 1995 and I have seen a third judgeship added to our Circuit. I now see the need to have a fourth judgeship added to our Circuit. The number of people that handle their own cases has risen dramatically over the years. These pro se litigants are taking much more "in Court" time than if they were represented by an attorney. Their documents are, more often than not, legally insufficient. This requires them to go back and prepare the documents correctly or to file additional documents that they omitted. Then, another court date has to be scheduled to finalize the case. I have seen pro se divorce litigants returning to court 2-3 times before they get it right. In addition to pro se litigants, TPOs have increased dramatically over the years and they can often take a substantial amount of time in Court.

In Elbert County, we have a State Court to handle misdemeanors. However, the other four counties in our Circuit do not. This requires our Judges to handle misdemeanors also in those counties.

The Judges and their assistants in our Circuit do an outstanding job with the caseload, but I know it must be overwhelming. I often wonder when the Judges have time to review the notes they have made in Court and ponder over the decisions to be made in their cases; not to mention having to research the law. There are often times when our Judges may not have a law clerk temporarily due to them leaving for other employment. Then the interview process for another law clerk adds more to their schedule.

Our Judges have had innovative ideas to help with the heavy caseload and these ideas have worked. However, with the current caseload, there is definitely a need for an additional judgeship in the Northern Judicial Circuit.

Respectfully submitted,



Leigh W. Starrett, Clerk
Elbert Superior, State & Juvenile Courts
P.O. Box 619
Elberton, GA 30635
(706)283-2005



FRANKLIN *County* georgia

To whom it may concern,

This is Heather Vaughn Hill, Clerk of Superior Court in Franklin County. I am writing to you on the behalf of the Superior Court Judges that cover the Northern Judicial Circuit. There is a great need for an additional Superior Court Judge, based on the workload of each Judge in our circuit. There are five different counties in the Northern Judicial Circuit. The counties are Franklin, Hart, Madison, Oglethorpe, and Elbert. This causes an overwhelming amount of cases for each Judge with only three Judges covering five counties. In Franklin County alone there are over 1500 pending criminal cases. This does not include the civil caseload, this is just criminal cases. Throughout the circuit these Judges carry a caseload of around 2000+ cases per EACH Judge. With our county being a smaller county (22,000 people) this type of case load seems massive.

I, along with all of the other clerks of this circuit have watched the Judges cover multiple calendars, trials, and special set days just trying to keep their heads above water. The Judges along with other offices have worked diligently to try and reduce the backlog. One way that they have tried to accomplish this is by scheduling an additional 26 weeks of trial throughout the circuit. This has made a good impact in the backlog but there is a significant need for more manpower. They also have to cover state court for four out of the five counties in the circuit. Which makes them responsible for speeding tickets to death penalty trials. Each and every charge takes its own amount of time. Which is a lengthy process.

I know that every circuit is very busy and we all have a large and compact responsibility at hand. I truly feel that our judges do more work than the average and they go above and beyond to try and get their caseloads handled. They work countless hours and long days. They have to multitask and have to double book most days. Which is why I am reaching out to try to express the need of a 4th Judge in our circuit. I believe that this would help move cases in our circuit and help the availability and accessibility of each Judge. Thank you so much for your time and your support in this matter.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Heather Vaughn Hill". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style with some loops and flourishes.

Heather Vaughn Hill

From: [Lee Vaughn](#)
To: Judgeships@georgiacourts.gov
Subject: Additional Judgeship
Date: Tuesday, August 2, 2022 8:44:05 AM

[EXTERNAL EMAIL]

To Whom it May Concern:

I would like to add my support for an additional Judgeship for the Northern Judicial Circuit.

Sincerely,

B. Lee Vaughn
Chairman, Elbert County Board of Commissioners
Office 706.213.9999
Cell 770.312.5769

Office of Clerk Superior Court



Frankie H. Gray, Clerk

PO Box 386
Hartwell, Ga 30643
Phone: 706.376.7189
Fax: 706.376.1277

07-28-2022

To Whom It May Concern,

I am writing this letter to express my concern and support for an additional Superior Court Judgeship. I am one of five counties in the Northern Judicial Circuit. Our circuit consists of Hart, Franklin, Madison, Elbert and Oglethorpe Counties. I know from being involved with the cases in Hart County alone, we have an ongoing backlog and, with the Pandemic of COVID, it has really put us behind on getting cases resolved in the court system.

As you are well aware, in the Northern Judicial Circuit, we have only three Superior Court Judges and they have five counties in which they serve. They hear all of our Criminal, Civil, and Child Support cases.

I have watched as each of our three judges have to deal with everything from misdemeanor traffic cases, felony cases, and even intense murder cases. Each case takes time to resolve. Our Judges and staff have been logging long hours since we have resumed court and trying to get to some type of normalcy from the pandemic.

In Hart County, we have Criminal cases that go back as far as 2014 -(1) 2015-(3) 2016-(0) 2017-(25) 2018-(19) 2019-(89) 2020-(285) 2021-(345) 2022-(298) with that being a total of 1065 cases in Hart County alone.

In regards to Civil cases, we have numerous cases that are open.

In regards to Child Support, we have numerous cases that are open.

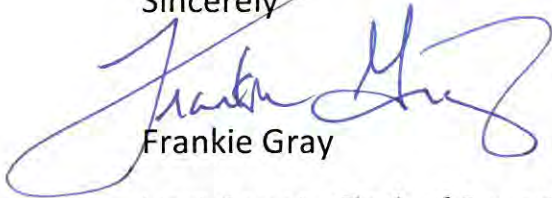
I can report that we have had Senior Judges fill in for our judges several times in order for them to handle other matters. Although it puts more work on the Clerk of Superior Court Office to have courts in two different buildings on the same day, we make it work because it gets cases resolved. At the end of the day I feel that is what it is going to take to move the open caseloads in each of our five counties.

I fully support any additional Superior Court Judgeships to help our county and each of the other counties in getting this backlog reduced which is for the betterment of all society.

I fully support the use of the ARPA funds to assist in funding our Court offices and Sheriff personnel (Deputies and Bailiffs) to work diligently to help in reducing our case load in the Northern Judicial Circuit.

If you have any questions of me, please feel free to call me at 1-706-376-7189.

Sincerely



Frankie Gray

Hart County Clerk of Superior Court

TAB 7



Judicial Council of Georgia

Administrative Office of the Courts

Chief Justice Michael P. Boggs
Chair

Cynthia H. Clanton
Director

Memorandum

TO: Judicial Council Members

FROM: Judge Stephen Kelley, Co-Chair

RE: Committee Report - Judicial Council Standing Committee on Technology

DATE: July 28, 2022

The Judicial Council Standing Committee on Technology met on Thursday, July 21, 2022. The following report reflects matters and topics discussed during that meeting.

Gateway Sub-Committee – Mr. Ben Luke, Sub-Committee member
Mr. Luke provided an update on the Judicial Gateway. During the previous meeting, the Committee received a presentation from graphic designer Eric Langley on the proposed enhancement for the Gateway. Mr. Langley explored how the end-user received the website's information and provided suggestions for improving the user experience. Mr. Luke shared a proposed timeline for the updates to the Gateway.

Rules Committee- Judge Jim Altman, Committee Chair
Judge Altman addressed the Committee regarding the subcommittee's progress. The protective order registry form draft and information form have been circulated; a discussion took place regarding the edits needed to the form and ensuring all necessary details are included. The Committee discussed the project, including the stages of development.

New Business

Automated Data Collection project-Mrs. Stephanie Hines and Jeffery Thorpe
Mr. Thorpe shared that the sub-committee continues to review the data submitted by the judicial partners who completed the NODS data spreadsheet. Additional outreach is taking place to engage judicial partners and related vendors. The research team has been collecting and organizing the data received thus far.

AOC Updates-Mr. Ben Luke

Mr. Luke provided an update on the Administrative Office of the Courts' technology projects. He provided the Committee with a brief demo of the developed virtual calendar call product. He explained that a security token had been added to this project for ease of user and security. Additionally, Mr. Luke shared that the AOC has developed a court observation program to allow AOC employees to observe the court process and better understand how the Court functions.

GCIC POR project-Judge Emerson,

Judge Emerson led the Committee in a discussion regarding the process. He mentioned that the standard form the Magistrate courts have developed is an excellent start. Mr. Luke shared an update from GCIC that is ready to process when they receive the form. The Committee engaged in discussions around the needs and the beta testing that was previously mentioned.

Standardization of file format, Judge Rob Leonard

Judge Leonard explained that the sub-committee had developed the framework of the initial rule. The rule begins by focusing on moving away from drive-based products, defining media as both audio and visual, and requiring commonly used media via USB. The rule does not include specific file types, as they change, and discussion took place regarding non-convertible files. The rules will begin circulation for further feedback.

SB 441 Update, Mike Holiman

Mr. Holiman reports that an initial team has been created with lead principals having experience and knowledge to support this work. The team has met with the case management vendor, clerks, and related parties to receive feedback; additionally, it is being discussed that the ORI number will be a feature that should be included. Holiman discussed several of the potential areas of recommendation, including a portal system for all filing parties would be necessary.

Next Meeting

The next committee meeting is scheduled for September 15, 2022.

TAB 8



Judicial Council of Georgia

Administrative Office of the Courts

Chief Justice Michael P. Boggs
Chair

Cynthia H. Clanton
Director

Memorandum

TO: Judicial Council
FROM: Justice Shawn Ellen LaGrúa and Chief Judge Russell McClelland, Co-chairs
RE: Update - Judicial COVID-19 Task Force
DATE: July 26, 2022

The Judicial COVID-19 Task Force last met on March 30 and is next scheduled to meet on August 24. The working group leaders will be meeting with Co-chairs Justice LaGrúa and Judge McClelland prior to the next full Task Force Meeting. Since January, the working groups have been revising the current Pandemic Bench Guide by integrating and updating the information from the COVID-19 Task Force Report. Staff has provided the working group leaders a draft of the new document that integrates the past Pandemic Bench book with their updated COVID-19 findings and guidance. They will be providing their revisions to staff for compilation and integration over the next several weeks in anticipation of the full Task Force meeting in August.

Some examples of the new content being edited and created is listed below.

Criminal working group – chaired by Judge Gosselin and Judge Hodges

- Judicial Emergency orders and sample orders
- Guidance to statutory speedy trial and access to legal resources
- “Day One Checklist” of what to do first in the event of a pandemic or emergency
- Grand jury considerations and procedures

Civil working group - chaired by Elizabeth Fite, Past-President of the State Bar

- Moving a civil docket in a pandemic
- How to conduct virtual voir dire and virtual depositions
- Guidance on setting civil trial dockets

Family working group – chaired by Judge Whitaker

- Revisions and updates to the juvenile justice section in the COVID-19 Task Force Report
- Review of ADR procedures
- Guidance on cases appropriate for virtual vs. in-person proceedings

Technical working group – chaired by Judge Leonard

- Content will be included in a future draft and was proposed to include Video Sample Orders, Access to Technology Resources, and a Video Conferencing Hearing Sample Order, among other resources

TAB 9



Judicial Council of Georgia

Administrative Office of the Courts

Chief Justice Michael P. Boggs
Chair

Cynthia H. Clanton
Director

Memorandum

TO: Judicial Council of Georgia

FROM: Judge William Boyett, Chair

RE: Standing Committee on Grants Report

DATE: July 18, 2022

The Judicial Council Standing Committee on Grants met on June 28, 2022, and awarded \$2,910,002 in grants to six nonprofit agencies for the Legal Assistance to Families Victimized by Domestic Violence Project (Domestic Violence Grant), and \$727,515 in a grant to Atlanta Legal Aid Society, in partnership with Georgia Legal Services Program, for the Legal Assistance to Kinship Care Families Project (Kinship Care Grant).

For Fiscal Year 2023, the following nonprofit agencies received Domestic Violence Grants:

Atlanta Legal Aid Society, Inc.	\$810,000.00
Cherokee Family Violence Center, Inc.	\$17,153.00
Gateway House, Inc.	\$15,300.00
Georgia Legal Services Program, Inc.	\$1,980,449.00
N.O.A.'s Ark, Inc./NOA/	\$43,600.00
Northwest Georgia Family Crisis Center, Inc.	<u>\$43,500.00</u>
TOTAL FUNDS AWARDED	\$2,910,002.00

The Committee declined to award funds to one prior applicant as this applicant did not comply with the provisions of the fiscal year 2022 grant award and did not submit their application prior to the application deadline.

The Georgia General Assembly first appropriated funds to the Judicial Council for its Domestic Violence Grant in 1999, and funding has continued each subsequent legislative session. This is the fourth year the General Assembly has appropriated funds to the Judicial Council for its Kinship

Care Grant. The Domestic Violence Grant funds are used to provide direct civil legal assistance to low-income victims of domestic violence and their children. The Kinship Care Grant funds are used to provide civil legal services to kinship caregivers and children living with caregivers who need support to maintain stable homes and care.

TAB 10



Judicial Council of Georgia

Administrative Office of the Courts

Chief Justice Michael P. Boggs
Chair

Cynthia H. Clanton
Director

Memorandum

TO: Judicial Council of Georgia

FROM: Judge Sara L. Doyle, Chair

RE: Strategic Plan Standing Committee Report

DATE: August 3, 2022

The Strategic Plan Standing Committee met on August 2, 2022, and closed out several key initiatives. The Committee will meet next on Tuesday, November 8, 2022, and anticipates closing out additional initiatives as it works to complete the strategic plan.

Communications Initiatives

Work under communications initiatives 1.2, *Increase resources for public accessibility*, and 1.4, *Develop plan for public/self-represented party accessibility to courts during a crisis*, began with the start of the strategic plan. Through the Access to Justice Committee (A2J) and Judicial Council Ad Hoc Committee on Improving Community Access to Legal Resources (ICALR), AOC staff have developed self-help family law forms, hosted records restrictions clinics, and with the State Bar of Georgia, developed an unauthorized practice of law card providing information on what assistance can be provided. The Committee voted to close out these initiatives but recognized that the nature of this work is ongoing.

The Committee also voted to close out key initiatives 3.1 and 4.1. As part of key initiative 3.1, *Develop a toolkit of wellness resources*, the AOC has developed a toolkit in partnership with the State Bar of Georgia. The toolkit is updated monthly, and the AOC will partner with the State Bar to hold an annual wellness CLE. As part of key initiative 4.1, *Support judges in community engagement*, the AOC partners with judges and schools to hold three annual events: Constitution Day in September, Bill of Rights Day in December, and Law Day in May. Other events are promoted throughout the year through the Georgia Courts Journal and on social media.

Key Initiative 1.1

Work under key initiative 1.1, *Modernize the regulation of Court professionals*, has been completed. The Judicial Council Standing Committee on Court Interpreters is reviewing revisions to the court interpreting rules and plans to bring the rules to the Judicial Council by the end of the year with a goal to have the rules in place with the new year.

The Court Reporting Matters Committee (CRMC) is reviewing updates to the digital court reporting legislation that was previously approved by the Judicial Council. AOC staff have met with the CRMC and GCRA to prepare legislation for the start of next session.

The Committee voted to close out this initiative as the various court professional rules updates are moving forward.

Key Initiative 2.2

As part of Key Initiative 2.2, *Improve the process for data collection and data integrity*, the Automated Data Collection Committee, a joint subcommittee of the Judicial Council Standing Committee on Judicial Workload Assessment and the Standing Committee on Technology, has met with judicial branch partners to review and obtain approval of the National Open Court Data Standards open data standards. AOC staff have submitted a white paper requesting funds to assist with data collection efforts with a goal to collect data quarterly. The AOC has also applied for a federal grant to expand data collection efforts. Should funding not be received, data collection will continue to take place annually. As these data collection efforts have been adopted, the Committee voted to close out this initiative.

Key Initiative 2.4

The Committee heard an update on Key Initiative 2.4, *Improve technology access, support and training across all classes of courts*. The AOC has entered into Memorandums of Understanding with judicial branch partners to provide IT support and collaborate with court councils across all classes of court. AOC IT staff regularly meet with judicial branch partners on IT issues. This is part of an ongoing effort that will continue beyond the strategic plan. The Committee voted to close out this initiative with the understanding that the work will continue.

Key Initiative 2.5

As part of Key Initiative 2.5, *Support all classes of Court in crisis management response taking into consideration both rural and urban areas and socio-economic factors for courts*, the work of two Ad Hoc Committees further this goal.

The Judicial COVID-19 Task Force is revising the current Pandemic Bench Guide and integrates the past Pandemic Bench Guide with COVID-19 findings, learnings, and guidance. This document, once complete, will be available to the judiciary as a tool in managing any future pandemic or public health emergency.

The recently created Ad Hoc Committee on Judicial Emergency Preparedness is charged with coordinating the accreditation plan for Continuity of Government for the Georgia Judicial Branch. The Committee is creating a comprehensive plan that contemplates thirteen identified hazards and the processes, protocols, and succession plans for continuing court operations if they occur, as outlined by the federal and Georgia emergency management agencies.

Next Steps

The current strategic plan and Committee are set to expire on June 30, 2023. Over the course of the remaining months, the Committee plans to continue to finalize and close out remaining plan key initiatives, as well as coordinate with the new strategic planning committee and other interested stakeholders in formulating the next strategic plan.

TAB 11



Judicial Council of Georgia

Administrative Office of the Courts

Chief Justice Michael Boggs
Chair

Cynthia H. Clanton
Director

Memorandum

TO: Judicial Council of Georgia

FROM: Michelle Barclay, Division Director

RE: JC/AOC's Communications, Children, Families, and the Courts Division

DATE: August 12, 2022

The Communications, Children, Families and the Courts Division of the JC/AOC serves as the hub for all communications and provides staff for the Supreme Court of Georgia Committee on Justice for Children, chaired by Justice Charles Bethel; the Georgia Commission on Child Support, chaired by Troup County Juvenile Court Judge Michael Key; and the Judicial Council Standing Committee on Access to Justice, chaired by Justice Verda Colvin. This Division also assists with general grant work for courts in partnership with the legal staff in the Director's Division.

Following is a brief synopsis of the current work.

- **Committee on Justice for Children (J4C):** Federal grant funding is in place through FY 2022. On June 29, 2022, Court Improvement Program (CIP) Director Diana Rugh Johnson submitted Georgia's Application for State Court Improvement Funds for Fiscal Year 2023, which included Georgia's Self-Assessment and updated Strategic Plan. The priorities for J4C now include:
 - The Court Process Reporting System (CPRS) meets the need for real-time data sharing between the Division of Family and Children Services (DFCS), the courts, and other child welfare professionals. CPRS also enables the uploading and e-filing of court orders, which all special assistant attorneys general (SAAGs) representing DFCS are required to do. J4C's current priority is to address Georgia's lack of statewide court data on dependency and termination cases, specifically data on agency and court compliance with mandatory timelines, using hearing dates and other case information in CPRS.
 - Georgia is serving as a pilot site for the Judicial, Court, and Attorney Measures of Performance (JCAMP) project, which is funded by the Children's Bureau through the Capacity Building Center for Courts. Georgia is field testing performance

- measures relevant to statewide child welfare practice through court observations, court files reviews, and participant surveys. Data collected through JCAMP will assist J4C to understand current court practices and identify areas for improvement.
- The Cold Case Project is a joint project of the J4C Committee and DFCS. Using a computer model, the Project identifies children in foster care whose cases are not moving toward permanency and convenes stakeholders in roundtable meetings to review the substantive due process rights of the children and to brainstorm ways to navigate around roadblocks to permanency. In addition to this case-specific work, J4C is focused on using lessons learned through Cold Case Project work to inform child welfare policy and practice.
 - The Court Improvement Initiative (CII) brings together leading juvenile court judges and court teams twice a year. CII reviews the best-practice model with each jurisdiction and, prior to each meeting, each jurisdiction reports on its latest efforts to implement these best practices. The next CII meeting is scheduled for August 11 – 12, 2022.
 - Georgia now has 63 attorneys and 7 judges who are certified Child Welfare Law Specialists (CWLS). J4C remains focused on the recruitment and retention of CWLSs and is offering financial assistance with application fees as well as annual renewal and recertification fees.
 - J4C, DFCS, OCA, and GA CASA are planning their sixth annual statewide Child Welfare Law Summit for November 30 – December 2, 2022. This year's Summit will offer in-person and virtual attendance options and all presentations will be available to attendees on-demand for 60 days after the Summit ends.
 - Multi-Disciplinary Child Abuse and Neglect Institute (MD CANI) trainings continue to be offered to individual counties and judicial circuits. The most recent MD CANI training was hosted in Gwinnett County. J4C remains focused on evaluating the efficacy of MD CANI and making changes as necessary to ensure that these trainings meet the needs of the individual counties and result in measurable changes in practice and in permanency outcomes in participating jurisdictions.
 - J4C also sponsors the Justice P. Harris Hines Awards for outstanding advocacy for children in dependency proceedings. Justice Charlie Bethel presented the 2022 Hines Awards at the State Bar Annual Meeting in June. This year's case manager winner was Katherine Hamm from Hall County DFCS and the attorney winner was Jennifer Cline, the Special Assistant Attorney General (SAAG) in Rockdale County.
 - **The next J4C Committee meeting will be held in September of 2022.**
- **Communications:** Improving communication can improve justice in all Georgia courts through collaboration and innovation, so it is a priority under the Judicial Council's Strategic Plan. One communication tool is our monthly e-newsletter—the Georgia Courts Journal—which may be found at <https://georgiacourtsjournal.org/>. At that website, in addition to back issues of the Georgia Courts Journal, you will find webpages dedicated to wellness and civics—providing many resources including links on everything from chair yoga to decision fatigue on the wellness page to a list of great read-aloud, civics-oriented books sorted by grade and subject matter on the civics page. We also promote

and create positive content about Georgia’s judicial branch—every class of court—through our social media daily. Our aim with all stories about the judicial branch is to instill faith in our state’s court system and the rule of law. To foster community engagement, we concentrate on three civic holidays: Law Day (May 1st), Constitution Day (September 17th), and Bill of Rights Day (December 15th) working with judges and schools to host events—in person or virtual as needed. We also manage the Georgia Courts Directory: <http://georgiacourts.knack.com/gcd2/>; Our social media platforms are: <https://www.facebook.com/GACourts>; <https://twitter.com/Gacourts>; <https://www.instagram.com/gacourts/> and our YouTube channel <https://www.youtube.com/judicialcouncilofgeorgia>.

- **Child Support Commission:** By contract with Georgia’s Department of Human Services (DHS)/Division of Child Support Services (DCSS), this Division serves as staff to the Georgia Child Support Commission. Commission staff works collaboratively with DHS/DCSS in several areas. These areas include providing an online child support calculator <https://csc.georgiacourts.gov/>, for court and public use, training on the calculator for courts, lawyers, and the public, supporting the Parental Accountability Courts (PAC), providing a website, <https://georgiacourts.gov/ido/>, for self-represented litigants and the courts with resources on Georgia’s Income Deduction Order (IDO) process in private cases, and generally supporting the process and the law surrounding child support.
 - The latest Child Support Commission Meeting was held virtually on Friday, April 29, 2022, during which several items of business were discussed. Reports were made by the chair of the Economic Subcommittee on the status of case sampling and the 2022 economic study; status of the work being considered by the Technology and Calculator Subcommittee; and on the recommendations to the Commission from the Parenting Time Deviation Study Committee. The Commission agreed to forward the Parenting Time Deviation Study Committee report to the Statute Review Subcommittee for further review and consideration.
 - Legislation: The Commission may submit a bill during the 2023 legislative session based on the results of the 2022 economic study of the child support guidelines and basic child support obligation table.
 - Study Committees: The Child Support Commission established a Parenting Time Deviation Study Committee and a Low-Income Deviation Study Committee at the end of 2018 each for a two-year period. The Low-Income Deviation Study Committee, chaired by Judge Emory Palmer, completed its work and submitted their report to the Commission in December 2020. The Parenting Time Deviation Study Committee was extended through April 2022, so the study committee could complete its work. The purpose of that study committee was to explore whether changes, including adding a formula to the child support calculation to account for parenting time, should be made. Commission member and Attorney Kathleen Connell chaired that study committee.
 - Subcommittees:
 - Economic Subcommittee, Chair, Dr. Roger Tutterow gave an update on the 2022 case sampling and economic study explaining that to ensure the study includes a comprehensive view of Georgia, he developed an algorithm that gives geographic diversity, but has in the aggregate a combination of

counties that looks like the state in terms of population density and per capita income. A total of 15 counties were selected: Appling, Early, Echols, Elbert, Fannin, Fayette, Forsyth, Glascock, Glynn, Houston, Paulding, Rockdale, Stewart, Troup, and Ware. The court orders, child support worksheets, and other related documents were gathered from those counties for the months of September and October 2021, with the cooperation of the superior court clerks. Staff worked directly with the Division of Child Support Services (DCSS) to secure their orders, worksheets, and payment summaries. Staff started receiving documents at the end of January 2022 and began data entry in a spreadsheet. The AOC executed a contract with Dr. Jane Venohr, Center for Policy Research, Inc. (CPR), to conduct the 2022 Economic Study at a cost of \$60,000.

- Statute Review Subcommittee, Chair, Katie Connell, and Co-Chair, Judge Connie L. Williford, conducted the first meeting of this subcommittee in several years on Friday, July 15, 2022.
- Technology and Calculator Subcommittee, Chair, Regina Quick. A report was given that two successful deployments of the Child Support Calculator were done in early January 2022. The first deployment was to update security for the calculator and the second was to update the Schedule B self-employment taxes paid formula as required in OCGA 19-6-53(a)(7). A meeting of this subcommittee has been scheduled for August 3, 2022 with a priority item on looking at recommendations from the Low-Income Deviation Work Group about how we may possibly improve the ease-of-use and functionality of the Low-Income Deviation in the calculator under the current statute.
- Child Support Calculator: Courts, attorneys, mediators, and the public are using the online calculator deployed on August 8, 2016. Internet connectivity within the courthouses is still an issue around the state. Every Excel version of the child support calculator was permanently retired on October 1, 2018. Staff continues providing virtual training to court personnel, attorneys, mediators, DCSS, and the public on a routine basis. Trainings include, but are not limited to, using the low-income deviation, steps to impute income, and generally how to use the calculator. Online training is going well and all sessions (at least once a month) have been very well attended. Staff prepared training videos for parents (self-represented litigants) that are available on the Child Support Commission website.
- Parental Accountability Court (PAC) evaluations: Staff continues to support and train PAC coordinators on the use of the database to produce statistical evidence of the efficacy of those courts. Staff is also coordinating a transfer of the PAC database to the Division of Child Support Services (DCSS) by September 30, 2022. Staff has identified the next six courts for evaluation and those courts are the Atlanta, Dublin, Gwinnett, Mountain, Pataula, and Rockdale Judicial Circuits.
- **Access to Justice Committee (A2J)**: The mission of the Access to Justice (A2J) Committee is to improve the public's trust in the judicial branch by promoting meaningful

and effective access to courts and fairness to all. The A2J Committee is currently working on several projects:

- The A2J Committee's Landlord/Tenant Working Group which includes: Magistrate Court Chief Judge Cassandra Kirk (Fulton), Magistrate Court Chief Judge Kristina Blum (Gwinnett), Magistrate Court Chief Judge Murphy (Cobb), Executive Director of GODR Tracy Johnson (representing mediation), the JC/AOC webmaster (representing IT), Judge Daphne Walker (representing DCA), and Ashley Clark (representing GLSP) are all working to research the current state of Georgia's housing crisis and creating possible statewide landlord/tenant rental assistance webinars. Judge Kasper (President of the Council of Magistrate Court Judges) recommended Judge Jennifer Lewis, as our rural judge for this working group. A webinar "lunch and learn" with DCA representative (Daphne Walker) was presented on November 5, 2021, for all Magistrate Judges. We have also disseminated, via the Council of Magistrate Judges' listserve, a statewide DCA regional contact list. This working group recently created a digital rental flyer to forward to all Magistrate Courts statewide.
- The A2J Committee is continuing to partner with and has adopted the State Bar's ATJ Committee's Justice for All (JFA) Strategic Plan and suggested projects. Work to assist the Dougherty County Law Library has created a local-level model for assisting self-represented litigants. The Committee is focused on a combination of strengthening local law libraries, online forms for self-filing, local pop-up legal clinics, and low-bono models of attorney representation, with the assistance of Mike Monahan and the Director of the Dougherty County Law Library. Additionally, the AOC's Research Division is assisting with the metrics of the model's effectiveness. The A2J Committee recently received a grant in the amount of \$40,000.00 from the State Bar of Georgia's Commission on Continuing Lawyer Competency (CCLC) via the JC/AOC to be used for the ongoing initiatives in the JFA Strategic Plan. This continued funding is the result of a partnership between the State Bar's Justice for All Committee and the A2J Committee. In an effort to continue collaborative work, both Committees traveled to Alabama for a retreat and, as a result, several new initiatives will be forthcoming.
- In 2019, we began hosting free Pop-up Legal Clinics, and the 3rd Clinic was planned for March 13th in Dalton but was canceled at the beginning of the COVID-19 outbreak. In light of our "new normal" under COVID-19 restrictions, we are collaborating with the Georgia Justice Project and the State Bar Pro Bono Committee to continue these important services through a Virtual Free Legal/Record Restrictions Clinic. The State Justice Institute awarded the A2J Committee a grant to assist in funding our clinics throughout the state last year. This year money was requested and granted to continue the virtual clinics from the Chief Justice's Commission on Professionalism. Some of the grant will be utilized to provide low-bono pay to our volunteer attorneys. Our first virtual attorney training session was held on April 23, 2020. The first Educational Webinar was held on April 29, 2020, and a second Educational Webinar was held on May 6, 2020. Virtual Free Record Restriction Clinics were successfully hosted on May 19, 2020 (Dalton), June 30, 2020 (Augusta), and September 11, 2020 & September 28, 2020 (Chattahoochee Judicial Circuit). We held a virtual clinic in Tifton on May

22, 2021 and a virtual clinic in Macon on June 9, 2021. We held our first phase Town Hall in Statesboro on August 23, 2021, and we hosted the first phase Town Hall for the Gainesville area on October 4, 2021. The local team in Tifton requested a hybrid model follow-up townhall, as rural areas need in-person options because of the scarcity of resources such as internet and home computers. Therefore, instead of moving to phase two, we hosted a follow-up town hall for the Tifton Area and Ogeechee Circuit on October 18, 2021. The participation was much better, and we are now in phase two which consists of pairing the applicants with attorneys. Through the continued funding support from CJCP, on May 5, 2022, we had an extremely successful “in-person” Records Restriction Clinic in Albany. In fact, the Albany Clinic had 265 registered attendees. Please view this PowerPoint which includes some highlights from the event. See: <https://tinyurl.com/yhybf49f>. Through a partnership with the Solicitor in Valdosta, a town hall was held on June 16, 2022 & June 17, 2022, and well over 200 attendees have applied for the Clinic which will be held on July 29, 2022. Our last Clinic for this year will be held in Wilcox County, where there is only one part-time practicing attorney. We held an initial town hall on July 7, 2022, and we are currently preparing for an “in-person” Clinic on August 20, 2022.

- The A2J Committee’s Deaf and Hard of Hearing (DHH) Working Group collaborated with several Americans with Disabilities Act attorney specialists to create a Best Practices for DHH Courthouse Accessibility counter card. This counter card is for all court personnel, and its purpose is to instruct on the ADA-required steps that must be taken if someone presents with a DHH need. The 3rd draft was submitted for final review during our December Committee meeting and changes were suggested by the Commission on Interpreters. This Counter card is ready for distribution, and we collaborated with GTA and Georgia Tech to have the 159 Counter Cards translated into Braille format. The DHH Braille Cards were mailed out to all district court administrators to be disseminated to every county in the state. The working group has identified a grant opportunity with the National Center for State Courts and will be applying. In our continued effort to become ADA compliant, funds are needed to secure hearing devices. The devices will be strategically placed in every judicial district so that all courts will have access to hearing devices, as needed. This working group applied for a CJCP grant to fund several DHH teaching modules on ADA compliance for judges, court staff, and bar members.
- The A2J Committee’s Self Represented Litigants (SRL) Forms Working Group is updating the most frequently used family law forms. This working group will ensure that all of the forms are pdf-fillable and translated into “plain language”. We are continuing to work on several self-help family law video scripts to accompany the related forms. Our first set of forms, “Divorce without Children”, along with the “how-to” video is complete and currently available on georgiacourts.gov. We recently completed our “Divorce with Children Forms” and the same has been uploaded to our website. We are grateful to have the Council of Superior Court Judges approve the use of these forms. We are currently editing forms for legitimation, custody, and eviction proceedings.

- o Any judges interested in learning about or participating in any A2J project may contact Tabitha Ponder at tabitha.ponder@georgiacourts.gov. **The next A2J Committee meeting will be via Zoom on 8/31/2022.**

TAB 12



SUPREME COURT OF GEORGIA

NATHAN DEAL JUDICIAL CENTER
ATLANTA, GEORGIA 30334

FROM THE CHAMBERS OF
MICHAEL P. BOGGS
CHIEF JUSTICE

(404) 656-3472

SUPREME COURT REPORT

This report and Judicial Council meeting are my first as Chief Justice. We said goodbye last month to Chief Justice Nahmias who served on this Court for over 12 years. It was an honor to celebrate him during his last day on the bench, when I noted that he has made this state and our Court better and has left the body of law in Georgia clearer than when he began. While we miss seeing him every day, we know he looks forward to cheering on his oldest son at football games at Duke this coming fall and enjoying his retirement with his family. We should all aspire to replicate in our service to the Judicial Council with the same level of devotion and commitment to our courts that he demonstrated through his dedicated service.

July 18th marked my investiture as Chief Justice and Justice Peterson's investiture as Presiding Justice. Thank you to everyone on Judicial Council who attended and special thanks to the Georgia Legal History Foundation for hosting the wonderful reception at the Nathan Deal Judicial Center. It was a memorable day and an honor to celebrate with you all and our many friends. In his new role as Presiding Justice, Justice Peterson will take over as Chair of the Legislation Committee. He has already conducted his first meeting, and I know he looks forward to working with each of your Councils as we prepare for the next legislative session.

On July 20th, Governor Brian Kemp swore-in Andrew A. Pinson as the newest Justice. Justice Pinson's experience as Solicitor General and as a Court of Appeals Judge will certainly be a great asset. I also look forward to Justice Pinson's contributions to the administrative committees of Judicial Council.

Since our last meeting, the Court has been presented with two portraits of former Chief Justices, former Chief Justice P. Harris Hines and former Chief Justice Carol W. Hunstein. The portrait unveiling ceremonies perfectly honored both of our dear friends and colleagues. Their portraits now hang in main wing of the 5th floor rotunda and I encourage you to stop by and see them next time you are in the Nathan Deal Judicial Center.

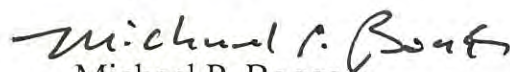
In June, our Court honored Steve Gottlieb with an Amicus Curiae award in recognition of his years of service and dedication to Atlanta Legal Aid Society as Executive Director. Mr. Gottlieb's leadership there made him one of the longest serving legal aid directors in the country. To quote former Chief Justice Nahmias, "Few if any lawyers have provided so much service for so long to the most vulnerable people in this State."

The new Ad Hoc Committee on Judicial Salaries and Supplements, established by former Chief Justice Nahmias, met this past month for its inaugural meeting. Chaired by Justice Bethel, the committee has been charged with updating and modernizing the report previously presented in 2016. Co-chaired by Superior Court Judge Russell ("Rusty") Smith of the Mountain Judicial Circuit, the committee plans to meet again on September 22nd and November 17th with an initial preliminary report in December and a final report in May of 2023.

Finally, I want to note that the Office of Bar Admissions held in-person testing for the bar exam last month and tested approximately 1,300 applicants for admission to the Georgia Bar. I also want to mention that the Court's new Term Clerk class for 2022-2023 will start this month. Last year's class proved to be an amazing resource for our Court and it seems the next group will be no exception, with graduates from the University of Georgia, Georgia State, Emory University, Duke University, and the University of North Carolina all represented. We look forward to welcoming them to our Court.

It is a great honor to serve as the new Chair of the Judicial Council. Please know I am always available for questions and concerns and want to know what issues and challenges you are navigating in your respective classes of court. I look forward to continuing our work to improve and promote our courts together.

Respectfully submitted,



Michael P. Boggs

Chief Justice, Supreme Court of Georgia



THE COURT OF APPEALS

OF THE
STATE OF GEORGIA
ATLANTA, GEORGIA 30334

CHAMBERS OF
CHIEF JUDGE BRIAN M. RICKMAN

(404) 232-1591
rickmanb@gaappeals.us

Report to Judicial Council of Georgia
August 12, 2022 Meeting

Former Chattahoochee Judicial Circuit Superior Court Judge Benjamin Land was sworn in to the Court of Appeals on July 20, 2022, and has been working hard as he settles in to his new role. We are happy to have him with us here in the Nathan Deal Judicial Center, and look forward to serving with him for a good long time.

On September 16, the Court of Appeals will present a four-hour program recounting and exploring the murder of Colonel Lemuel Penn by KKK members, which occurred just days after the passage of the Civil Right Act of 1964. Colonel Penn, a Bronze Star recipient, was the assistant superintendent of the D.C. public school system, and was on his way home to D.C. after attending reserve officer training at Fort Benning.

Among the distinguished speakers will be Senior Judge Herbert Phipps, members of the prosecutor's family, myself, and others who are personally familiar with the crime and subsequent state and federal trials.

In other news, the court has begun planning offsite oral arguments after a hiatus of several years due to the pandemic. On September 7, 2022, Presiding Judge Stephen Louis A. Dillard, Judge Amanda Mercier, and Judge Todd Markle will hear arguments at Mercer University School of Law in Macon. As I mentioned in the last report, on September 28, Presiding Judge Christopher McFadden, Judge Elizabeth Gobeil, and Judge Land will hear arguments at the University of Georgia School of Law, where all three judges attended law school.

In October, Presiding Judge Anne Elizabeth Barnes, Judge Trent Brown, and Judge Ken Hodges will hear oral arguments at Valdosta State University. And the court's 2023 panels are planning ahead. In February 2023, Presiding Judge McFadden, Judge Trent Brown, and Judge Todd Markle will travel to the Coffee County courthouse in the Waycross Judicial Circuit for oral arguments. Finally, Presiding Judge Dillard and Judge Trea Pipkin will head to the hills with me in April 2023 to hear arguments at the Tallulah Falls School in Habersham County.

Please let me or any member of the court know if you would like for us to hear arguments in your courthouse. In the meantime, I encourage all of you to come visit us in the Nathan Deal Judicial Center.

Brian M. Rickman
Chief Judge, Court of Appeals of Georgia



SUPREME COURT OF GEORGIA

FILED
Administrative Minutes
July 14, 2022

Thérèse S. Barnes
Clerk/Court Executive

Thérèse S. Barnes

The Honorable Supreme Court met pursuant to adjournment. The following order was passed:

It is hereby ordered that the Judge of the Georgia State-wide Business Court may appoint a designee to serve in his or her place on all Standing Committees and Ad Hoc Committees of the Judicial Council of Georgia.

Such designee may be heard and shall be entitled to vote and considered part of the quorum for the meeting.

SUPREME COURT OF THE STATE OF GEORGIA
Clerk's Office, Atlanta

I certify that the above is a true extract from the minutes of the Supreme Court of Georgia.

Witness my signature and the seal of said court hereto affixed the day and year last above written.

Thérèse S. Barnes, Clerk



Council of Superior Court Judges of Georgia

Suite 104, 18 Capitol Square, Atlanta, Georgia 30334

(404) 656-4964 Fax (404) 651-8626

Council of Superior Court Judges Report to Judicial Council August 2022

The Council of Superior Court Judges held its semi-annual meeting and summer training conference at Jekyll Island on August 1-4, 2022. The educational seminar presented by the Institute of Continuing Judicial Education (ICJE) included topics such as new drugs for non-drug court judges; a senior judge panel; merger; use of receivers and special masters; case assistance exchanges regarding sex crime case issues, opening and closing, and voir dire; injunctions and restraining orders; a presentation by the Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Disabilities; a Judicial Qualifications Commission update; legal writing; family violence; courthouse security; a case law update; an update from the Georgia Government Transparency and Campaign Finance Commission, and an evidence update. Chief Justice Michael P. Boggs was the featured luncheon speaker.

Each year, the Council recognizes deserving judges with the Emory Findley Award. The award, named after the late Judge Emory Findley, recognizes judges for their outstanding leadership and dedication to the continued improvement of our court system. This year's recipient was Senior Judge David T. Emerson of the Douglas Judicial Circuit. Judge Emerson is a past president of the Council and the former chairman of the Judicial Council Judicial Workload Assessment Committee.

Governor Brian Kemp appointed Judge Nora Polk to the bench of the Stone Mountain Judicial Circuit. He also appointed Judge Julie Jacobs and Judge Vic Reynolds to the bench of the Cobb Judicial Circuit.



Council of State Court Judges
Impartial Courts • Judicial Excellence • Accessible and Efficient Justice

Executive Committee

*Judge R. Violet Bennett
President (Wayne)*

*Judge John K. Edwards, Jr.
President-Elect (Lowndes)*

*Judge Jeffrey B. Hanson
Secretary (Bibb)*

*Judge Gregory V. Sapp
Treasurer (Chatham)*

*Judge Alvin T. Wong
Immediate Past-President (DeKalb)*

*District 1
Judge Billy E. Tomlinson (Bryan)*

*District 2
Judge Shawn Rowland (Jeff Davis)*

*District 3
Judge Ellen S. Golden (Lowndes)*

*District 4
Judge Tammi L. Hayward (Clayton)*

*District 5
Judge Monique Walker (Richmond)*

*District 6
Judge John G. Breakfield (Hall)*

*District 7
Judge Eric A. Richardson (Fulton)*

*District 8
Judge Michelle H. Helhoski (Cherokee)*

244 Washington Street, S.W.
Suite 300
Atlanta, GA 30334
404-651-6204 • FAX 404-463-5173

Staff

*Bob Bray
Executive Director*

Report of the Council of State Court Judges
Judicial Council Meeting
August 12, 2022

The Council expresses its congratulations to Chief Justice Michael Boggs and Presiding Justice Nels Peterson on their elections to lead the Supreme Court of Georgia and wishes both of them the best in their new endeavors.

This year's Spring Judicial Training Conference was held May 18th – 20th. at Legacy Lodge at Lake Lanier Islands, Buford, Georgia. Over 90 Judges attended the Conference in-person and others attended remotely. The Dinner Banquet Speech was given by the President of the State Bar, Ms. Sarah B. Aikens. The Judges also heard from Justice John Ellington who administered the oath of office to in-coming President R. Violet Bennett. All committee meetings were held prior to the Conference using the Zoom platform. Courses this Spring included: Updates from DDS; the JQC; Legislative Updates from Ms. Tracy Mason and Ms. Cheryl Karounos with the AOC, and from Attorney Michael Terry on Apportionment. Presentations were also given on Civil case law updates from Attorneys Barbara Marschalk and Darren Summerville; and a Case Assistance Exchange was led by Senior Judge Melodie Clayton. Panel Discussions included: Misdemeanor Bond Issues. Judge Wayne Purdom gave a presentation on Sanctions in Civil Cases; Judge Wes Tailor presented on Contempt; Judge David Darden spoke about Sovereign Citizens; and Judge Mike Jacobs gave a presentation on Sexual Orientation and Gender Identity.

The General Membership of the Council held its annual election of Officers and Elected Judge R. Violet Bennett (Wayne) as President; Judge John K. Edwards, Jr. (Lowndes) as President-Elect; Judge Jeffrey B. Hanson (Bibb) as Secretary, and Judge Gregory V. Sapp (Chatham) as Treasurer. Judge Alvin T. Wong will serve as Immediate Past-President.

The State Court of Paulding County began operation on July 1, 2022. The Council welcomes Judge Angela R. O'Connor as its first Judge. Other recent appointments by Governor Brian Kemp include Judge Stephen R. Yekel to the State Court of Effingham County and Judge Pythias "Pete" Temesgen to the State Court of Muscogee County.

Also, the Council congratulates Chief Judge Linda S. Cowen who will be retiring on December 31, 2022 after 27 years as Judge in the State Court of Clayton County. Judge Cowen served as President of the Council in 2013 – 2014 and was presented the Ogden Doremus / Kent Lawrence Award in 2014.



On June 29th Fulton County State Court Chief Judge Susan E. Edlein was presented the Outstanding Woman in the Profession Achievement Award at a luncheon of the Women in the Profession Section of the Atlanta Bar Association. The Council congratulates Judge Edlein on this prestigious award.

Pictured from l – r: Judge Diane Bessen (Fulton); Chief Judge Susan Edlein (Fulton); Council President, Judge Vi Bennett (Wayne) and Judge Ana Maria Martinez (DeKalb).

Judge Edlein and Judge Wes Tailor were both highlighted in a recent FGTV [Happening in Fulton County](#) local TV interview about the DUI Treatment Court. The piece featured a recent DUI Treatment Court graduation this past month which is in its 15th year of operation

Cobb County Bar Association Law Day Award Recipients this year included Judge Jane Manning (Cobb) who was presented with the Judge A. Harris Adams Justice Award which recognizes the Cobb County Judge that best reflects the Georgia Code of Judicial Conduct preamble. Also, retired Cobb County State Court Judge Toby Proegers received the Liberty Bell Award which recognizes an individual or entity whose community service has strengthened the system of freedom under the law.

Judge Tammi Hayward (Clayton) was recently recognized by the Clayton County Bar Association and presented their Community Service Award as part of the Law Day celebration.

In June, the Fayette County Board of Commissioners recognized State Court Judge Jason Thompson and the 2021 – 2022 Fayette County State Court Interns which includes both high school and college students:



Commissioners pictured (left to right): Edward Gibbons, Lee Hearn, Charles D. Rosseau, Charles Oddo. Honorees pictured (left to right): Sara Anis Ali, Kevin Becerra-Cardoza, Taylor Blumenthal, Alexis Nichols, Cady Sikes, Benjamin Appel, Ju



Each summer the Spalding County Sheriff's Office sponsors a C.H.A.M.P.S. Camp for students entering the Fourth or Fifth grade in the Spalding County Schools. During one day at camp, they get to visit with Judge Josh Thacker at the State Court to be a "Judge" for the Day. "It's just so rewarding," he said. "Meeting with campers helps fulfill a responsibility of building trust with the community"

State Court of Spalding County Judge Josh Thacker with campers.

Senior Judge Ben Studdard (Henry) recently returned from Tbilisi, Georgia in Western Asia, where he continued training Judges on Jury Trials and Jury Management as part of a program sponsored by the U.S. Embassy and Department of Justice. This is Judge Studdard's 8th trip to Georgia since 2017 to support judicial reform and development of Jury Trial Institute. Judge Studdard's visit was also focused on improving procedures related to the jury selection process. Judge Studdard also had the honor of visiting two regional jury trial courts, Batumi and Kutaisi City Courts, where he met with the judges and attended court hearings, including observing jury selection hearing in Kutaisi City Court.



Judge Ben Studdard visits Prosecutor's Office of Georgia. Photo: Prosecutor's Office of Georgia

Respectfully submitted,

R. Violet Bennett

Judge R. Violet Bennett, President



COUNCIL OF JUVENILE COURT JUDGES OF GEORGIA

Judge Render Heard, *President*
Judge Lindsay H. Burton, *President-Elect*
Judge Warner Kennon, *Vice President*
Judge T. Neal Brunt, *Secretary*
Judge Maureen Wood, *Treasurer*
Judge C. Gregory Price, *Immed. Past President*

Judge Thomas L. Cole, *District 1*
Judge Brian Bellamy, *District 2*
Judge Andrew C. Dodgen, *District 3*
Judge Desiree Peagler, *District 4*
Judge Christopher W. Yokom, *District 5*
Judge Deitra Burney Butler, *District 6*
Judge Carolyn Altman, *District 7*
Judge Sherri McDonald, *District 8*
Judge Nhan-Ai Simms, *District 9*
Judge Charles Evans, *District 10*

Eric J. John, *Executive Director*

REPORT TO JUDICIAL COUNCIL OF GEORGIA AUGUST 12, 2022

The Council of Juvenile Court Judges (CJCJ) would like to congratulate Chief Justice Boggs and Presiding Justice Peterson upon their being sworn in to their new roles on the Supreme Court and corresponding roles on the Judicial Council.

The Council of Juvenile Court Judges held its Spring Conference May 1-4, 2022, at which time Judge Render M. Heard, Jr., of the Tifton Judicial Circuit was sworn in as the incoming President of the Council effective June 1, 2022. Currently, Judge Lindsay Burton is serving as President-Elect of the Council, Judge Warner Kennon as Vice-President, Judge Neal Brunt as Secretary and Judge Maureen Wood as Treasurer. Judge Greg Price remains on the Council's Executive Committee as Immediate Past President.

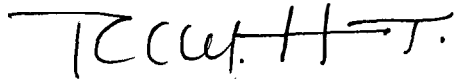
The Officers have begun discussing a plan to replace Judge Burton's position on the Executive Committee when she takes office as a Superior Court Judge for the Northeastern Judicial Circuit on January 1, 2023. In the event of a vacancy in one of the positions on the Executive Committee, Council By-Laws provide that all officers below the vacant position progress to the next office and a new Treasurer is to be chosen by the Executive Committee to fill the vacancy in that position. The CJCJ again would like to congratulate Judge Burton on her election to the Superior Court bench in May.

A special Council workgroup has been appointed to work in collaboration with DHS/DFCS to draft a Memorandum of Understanding to guide the Council's Executive Director and the Commissioner of DHS in certifying juvenile court judges and Special Assistant Attorney Generals for receipt of the accountability court supplement as provided by HB 911. The combined workgroup has been meeting regularly and appears to be nearing a consensus on language needed to effectuate the provisions of HB 911 in that regard.

The Executive Committee is currently planning a long range planning conference for members of the EC and key committee heads August 17-19, 2022. On the agenda for the LRPC are a wide range of topics from future technology challenges for our juvenile courts to updating our juvenile courts' existing docketing guidelines to the mode and manner of future legislative engagement by the Council.

The Council's Fall Conference is scheduled for October 23-26, 2022, in Athens.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "R. Heard, Jr.", written in a cursive style.

Judge Render M. Heard, Jr., President



Council of Probate Court Judges of Georgia

Judge B. Shawn Rhodes
President (Wilcox)

Judge Danielle McRae
President Elect (Upson)

Judge Christopher Ballar
Vice President (Gwinnett)

Judge Darin McCoy
Secretary-Treasurer (Evans)

Judge Thomas Lakes
Immediate Past President (Harris)

Kevin D. Holder
Executive Director

Report to Judicial Council of Georgia
August 12, 2022

The following is a summary of activities and current initiatives by the Council of Probate Court Judges:

2022 Traffic Seminar

Our annual Traffic Seminar was held on May 9-11, 2022 at the UGA Center for Continuing Education in Athens. As always, we extend our appreciation to the staff of the Institute of Continuing Judicial Education for facilitating this event and a special thank you to the Georgia Department of Public Safety, the UGA Police Department, and Athens-Clarke County Police Department.

New Probate Judges

Congratulations to our newest group of probate judges: Judge Joni Goodwin (Chattahoochee County), Judge Shayne Green (Polk County), and Judge Gretchen Bailey (Appling County). We sincerely wish the best to each of these judges and look forward to their contributions as judges and members of our Council.

Judge James McGlaun and Judge Diane Hallman

We are still grieving the loss of our colleague, Judge James McGlaun of Chattahoochee County who died in June after a battle with a long-term illness. Judge McGlaun served as the probate judge of Chattahoochee County since 2009 and prior to his service on the bench, had a three-decade career in law enforcement. Lastly, we would like to wish Judge Diane Hallman of Appling County all the best, as she recently retired after 45 years on the bench.

Respectfully submitted,

Judge B. Shawn Rhodes
President, Council of Probate Court Judges of Georgia



Council of Magistrate Court Judges

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(404) 656-5171 • Fax (404) 651-6449
Georgiamagistratecouncil.com

Executive Director
Sharon Reiss

President
Judge Rebecca Pitts
Butts County

President-Elect
Judge Brandon Bryson
Bartow County

Vice-President
Judge Bobby Wolf
Fulton County

Secretary
Judge Berryl A. Anderson
DeKalb County

Treasurer
Judge Jennifer Lewis
Camden County

Immediate Past President
Judge Quinn Kasper
Cobb County

District One
Judge Nathan Grantham
Judge Scott Lewis

District Two
Judge David Crosby
Judge Heather Culpepper

District Three
Judge Angela Sammons
Judge Jennifer Webb

District Four
Judge Phinia Aten
Judge Matt McCoy

District Five
Judge Linda Borsky
Judge Cassandra Kirk

District Six
Judge Cecil Hutchins
Judge Megan Kinsey

District Seven
Judge Jennifer Inmon
Judge Connie Reed

District Eight
Judge Colby Crabb
Judge Ashley Thornton

District Nine
Judge Bill Brogdon
Judge Tony Tarnacki

District Ten
Judge Mike Burke
Judge Caroline Evans

Members-at-Large
Judge Jim Altman
Judge Todd Ashley

Council of Magistrate Court Judges Report

The Council of Magistrate Court Judges (CMCJ) has been busy this spring and summer. Being able to finally meet in person for the annual spring meeting at Great Wolf Lodge in April was a welcome change after holding our last few meetings via Zoom. Spring elections were held, electing the following officers: Judge Rebecca Pitts, President; Judge Brandon Bryson, President-Elect; Judge Robert Wolf, Vice President; Judge Berryl Anderson, Secretary; and Judge Jennifer Lewis, Treasurer. Judge Megan Kinsey was also appointed and elected to serve as the new Chair of the Magistrate Court Training Council (MCTC). MCTC is busy working with its Curriculum Committee for upcoming training conferences.

New committee chairs have been approved for the year and the leadership team held their first strategic planning session since 2018. Almost all key initiatives from the last strategic plan have been completed. Leadership discussed challenges faced during the pandemic and added new initiatives to address both those challenges and other areas where issues were identified. The Executive Committee is in the process of reviewing the plan for final approval and implementation.

CMCJ will hold its annual fall meeting in Savannah in October. Plans are also being made to celebrate 40 years of CMCJ at the April 2023 meeting.

Respectfully Submitted,

Judge Rebecca Pitts, President CMCJ



COUNCIL OF MUNICIPAL COURT JUDGES

August 3, 2022

Judge JaDawnva Baker, President
Atlanta Municipal Court
Judge, Atlanta Municipal Court
150 Garnett Street, S.W.
Atlanta, Georgia 30303
(404)588-5970
JCBaker@AtlantaGa.Gov

Chief Judge Matthew McCord
President-Elect
City of Stockbridge
matt@mmccordlaw.com

Judge David Will, Vice President
City of Clarkston
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District One
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Judge Richard Sanders

District Two
Chief Judge Willie Weaver Sr.
Judge Gregory T. Williams

District Three
Judge Chimere Trimble
Judge Bill NeSmith

District Four
Judge Michael Nation
Judge Jennifer Mann

District Five
Judge Gary E. Jackson
Judge Roberta Cooper

District Six
Judge James Dalton II
Judge Wanda Dallas

District Seven
Judge Robert Cowan
Chief Judge Luke Mayes IV

District Eight
Judge Joseph Sumner
Judge Dexter Wimbish

District Nine
Judge Pamela Boles
Judge William Brogdon

District Ten
Judge Dale "Bubba" Samuels
Judge Ryan S. Hope

Report to the Judicial Council of Georgia – August 2022

The following is an overview of recent events, programs, and activities of the Council of Municipal Court Judges (CMuCJ):

Council Meeting Endeavors

The Council's full Executive Committee met on June 14, 2022, at the Jekyll Ocean Club, Jekyll Island, Georgia. The Council also held its annual Summer Business Meeting and Awards & Recognition Ceremony on June 16, 2022, where the Membership approved the FY 2022-23 Council Budget and an amendment to the Bylaws adding Article 10 Parliamentarian.

Honorable Steve C. Jones, United States District Court for the Northern District of Georgia attended the Business Meeting as the Council's guest speaker and administered the oath of office to the newly elected officers. Honors were also bestowed during that time for various achievements. Judge Gary E. Jackson, Municipal Court of Atlanta, received the Frost Ward Lifetime Achievement Award, which recognizes a municipal court judge who has made significant contributions to the Council of Municipal Court Judges over a long period of time. Chief Judge Gregory Williams, Municipal Courts of Camilla and Pelham was recognized with the Glen Ashman Education Achievement Award which honors judges that exemplify judicial education through extensive time and efforts towards educating municipal court judges and clerks. Judge Jennifer Mann, Chamblee Municipal Court and Chief Judge Michael Nation, Municipal Court of Conyers, were awarded the Special Recognition Award for their excellent representation and efforts as District Representatives.

The Council's President's Award, on behalf of Judge Lori Duff, was awarded to Judge Gary E. Jackson, Municipal Court of Atlanta, for his tireless efforts to improve the judicial system through legislative reform; Chief Judge Norman H. Cuadra, Municipal Court of Suwanee, for his unceasing efforts to ensure equal access to justice for all Georgia's citizens; Chief Judge Margaret Washburn, Municipal Court of Sugar Hill, for her tireless efforts and contributions to improving the judicial system; Chief Judge Charles Barrett Municipal Court of Duluth, for his tireless works on legislative initiatives regarding the Council; and LaShawn Murphy, Trial Court Liaison, Judicial Council/Administrative Office of the Courts for her unwavering loyalty, dedication, patience and support to the Council.

The Council also recognized Representative Bonnie Rich (House District 97) for perseverance in the General Assembly in sponsoring and passage of [HB 1275](#); Representative Rob Leverett (House District 33) for perseverance in the General Assembly in the sponsorship and

COUNCIL OF MUNICIPAL COURT JUDGES

passage of HB 916 [Superior-and-State-Court-Appellate-Practice-Act](#); Senator John Kennedy (Senate District 18) for perseverance in the General Assembly in the passage of HB 916; Darron J. Enns, Esq., Assistant General Counsel, Judicial Council/Administrative Office of the Courts for the drafting of HB 916 and tireless efforts dedicated to the Committee for its passage; Cheryl Karounos, Governmental Affairs Liaison, JC/AOC Judicial Council/Administrative Office of the Courts for superb lobbying in the General Assembly instrumental in securing the passage of HB 916 and Tracy Mason, Senior Assistant Director, Judicial Council/Administrative Office of the Courts for superb lobbying in the General Assembly instrumental in securing the passage of HB 916.

Leadership Session

As a critical component in assuring continuity in leadership and the yearly development of the CMu CJ and the services and representation it provides its membership, representatives from the Council met July 14-15, in Dahlonega, Georgia, for a day and half-day session. Held annually following the election of new leadership, the meeting's purpose is for the President to share their vision of the upcoming year with officers and key members and to hold discussions regarding past initiatives and plans for moving forward.

Legislation

For the 2023 session of the General Assembly, the CMu CJ plans to introduce a "clean up" bill to conform HB 1275 to HB 916 the [Superior-and-State-Court-Appellate-Practice-Act](#).

The Council presented the initiative as an informational item at the July 20 meeting of the Judicial Council Standing Committee on Legislation.

Continuing Judicial Education

The Council's Summer Law and Practice Update Seminar was presented in person June 15- 17, 2022, in Jekyll Island, Georgia. Conducted through the Institute of Continuing Judicial Education (ICJE), the three-day program provided accreditation for those serving as of January 1, 2022 (New Judges), in addition to recertifying judges. The curriculum included sessions such as Georgia Municipal Association (GMA) Roundtable; Updates on DUI Law; Legislative-Case Law-Evidence Updates; JQC Update; Profit & Punishment: "How America Criminalizes the Poor in the Name of Justice"; Poverty Simulator; Utilizing Technology in Unprecedented Times; Municipal Courts by Hon. Frank Caprio; and Probation: Sentencing Alternatives & Revocation. Additional subject matter tracks were provided to new judges as well.

The Council is scheduled to hold its Fall Law and Practice Update Seminar September 28-30, at the Georgia Center in Athens, Georgia, conducted through ICJE.

Next Meeting

The next meeting of the Council of Municipal Court Judges Executive Committee is scheduled to take place September 29 in conjunction with the Fall Law & Practice Update.

Respectfully submitted,

Judge JaDawnya Baker

President, Council of Municipal Court Judges

TAB 13



Council of Accountability Court Judges

Judge Charles E. Auslander, III
Executive Committee Chair
Athens-Clarke County

Taylor Jones
Executive Director

Council of Accountability Court Judges Report to Judicial Council August 2022

In the time since the Council of Accountability Court Judges (CACJ) last reported to the Judicial Council, the CACJ held its annual meeting on June 24, 2022. During the meeting, the CACJ elected its FY23 Executive Committee members, which are listed below.

Judge Charles E. Auslander, III, Athens-Clarke County, State Court – **Chair**
Judge Lawton E. Stephens, Western Judicial Circuit, Superior Courts – **Vice-Chair**
Judge Cynthia C. Adams, Douglas Judicial Circuit, Superior Court
Judge Karen E. Beyers, Gwinnett Judicial Circuit, Superior Court
Judge Jeremy Clough, Enotah Judicial Circuit, Juvenile Courts
Judge Maureen C. Gottfried, Chattahoochee Judicial Circuit, Superior Courts
Judge Robert C.I. McBurney, Atlanta Judicial Circuit, Superior Court
Judge John E. Niedrach, Rome Judicial Circuit, Superior Court
Chief Judge W. James Sizemore Jr., Southwestern Judicial Circuit, Superior Courts
Judge Jason B. Thompson, Fayette County, State Court
Chief Judge D. Scott Smith, Cherokee Judicial Circuit, Superior Courts – **Immediate Past Chair**

The CACJ's Funding Committee, in conjunction with the Criminal Justice Coordinating Council and several District Court Administrators, met in April to review the FY23 accountability court operating grant applications. The amount of funds requested by the courts totaled \$33,993,752.

The CACJ was able to award the following amounts to the courts:

- Adult Felony Drug Courts - \$13,840,221
- Adult Mental Health Courts - \$5,954,013
- Veterans Treatment Courts - \$2,241,442
- DUI Courts - \$1,888,264
- Family Treatment Courts - \$3,187,681
- Juvenile Drug & Juvenile Mental Health Courts - \$1,037,579
- The CACJ also awarded \$611,768 in transportation funds to support participant treatment session attendance, court appearances, and drug testing obligations.
- Additional accountability court funds will be released to the courts via competitive mid-year grant solicitations.

The CACJ is diligently preparing for the 2022 Accountability Courts Training Conference scheduled to be **an in-person event** in October. The CACJ's Training Committee has worked to bring together national and local speakers to present on a variety of accountability court topics. The CACJ is looking forward to executing another successful training conference in 2022.



GEORGIA COMMISSION ON DISPUTE RESOLUTION

The following is an update for the Georgia Commission on Dispute Resolution (GCDR):

Chair

Judge M. Cindy Morris

Executive Director

Tracy B. Johnson

Deputy Director

Karlie A. Sahs

Commission Members

Justice John J. Ellington

Judge Amanda H. Mercier

Judge Jane C. Barwick

N. Staten Bitting Jr., Esq.

Hon. Rebecca Crumrine

Rieder

Judge Clarence Cuthbert, Jr.

Mary Donovan, Esq.

Judge C. Andrew Fuller

Herbert H. (Hal) Gray III,

Esq.

Melissa C. Heard, M.S.S.W.

Nicole Woolfork Hull, Esq.

Rep. Rob Leverett, Esq.

Judge Carrie B. Markham

Patrick T. O'Connor, Esq.

Edith B. Primm, Esq.

Judge Renata D. Turner

Randall Weiland

Peggy McCoy Wilson

Restorative Conference Atlanta (RCA)

GCDR aligns all major projects, through the Office of Dispute Resolution (GODR), with its strategic plan. As part of *Court Outreach: Expansion and Enhancement* (a Tier 1 project), GODR has partnered with the Fulton County Juvenile Court and Dr. Lauren Abramson (Community Transformation in Baltimore, MD) to create a restorative justice pilot project for the court.

This pilot project focuses on diverting juvenile cases which involve more serious offenses to a restorative justice process called community conferencing (CC). The community conferencing model aims to shift collective values from punishment and exclusion to healing and repair. Where litigation traditionally separates those who created harm from those impacted by the harm, community conferencing brings all impacted parties (including parents, school officials, and other community members) together for the opportunity of meaningful reconciliation and transformation. Data in areas already utilizing conferencing shows positive results of reduced recidivism.

Restorative Conferencing Atlanta (RCA) is a third-party project born out of Atlanta Victim Assistance. A facilitator training was successfully complete on May 6-7 in Atlanta. With the support of the Fulton County Juvenile Court judges and administration (including its ADR program), GCDR, and the Fulton County DA's office, RCA has begun to receive referrals to facilitate community conferencing for certain cases.

The GCDR Committee on Training and Credentials is currently working on a plan to establish rules and qualifications for community conferencing and CC facilitators as an official ADR process. GODR thanks Chief Presiding Judge Juliette W. Scales; Presiding Judge Renata Turner; Mr. Tim Ezell (Fulton County); Ms. Allison Bantimba (RCA); Dr. Elizabeth Beck (RCA, Georgia State University); the Office of District Attorney Ms. Fani Willis, Esq.; and other working group members for their support.

ADR Rule Revisions

GCDR is continuing its work on updating the Supreme Court's ADR Rules to better align them with the Georgia Uniform Mediation Act. At the May meeting, the GCDR approved the Ad-hoc Rules Committee's recommendations. These recommendations will guide the GCDR Committees in updating their respective appendices. All revisions will be circulated for public comment prior to submission to the Supreme Court.

29th Annual ADR Institute

The 2022 ADR Institute will be held on November 18 at the Georgia Tech Hotel & Conference Center. This will be the first in-person conference in two years, with an option for virtual attendance. Neutrals will receive six (6) hours of CE. GODR will also seek approval for six (6) hours of CLE for attorneys (1 ethics and 1



GEORGIA COMMISSION ON DISPUTE RESOLUTION

professionalism hour). Information for the conference will be disseminated to all court councils.

2022 Program Directors' Conference

The 2022 Court ADR Program Directors' Conference was held in Savannah on April 25-27. Attendees included Commission members, staff, and ADR Program Directors and staff. Feedback from all attendees was overall very positive.

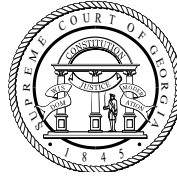
Important programming for the conference included mediating probate court cases, with presentation assistance by Ms. Ellie Lanier; an overview of a new data collection plan proposal, with discussion led by Mr. Jeffrey Thorpe; and practical tips for cybersecurity led by Mr. Ben Luke. GODR thanks JC/AOC staff Mr. Thorpe, Mr. Luke, and Ms. Carole Collier for their participation and assistance with the conference.

Upcoming Commission Meeting Date

The next Commission meeting date is August 17, 2022, at the Whitfield County Courthouse. Meeting information as well as minutes from past meetings are posted on the GODR website at www.godr.org.

CHIEF JUSTICE'S COMMISSION ON PROFESSIONALISM

Hon. Michael P. Boggs, Chief Justice
Supreme Court of Georgia, Chair



Karlise Y. Grier
Executive Director

Memorandum

TO: Judicial Council of Georgia
FROM: Karlise Y. Grier, Executive Director
RE: Chief Justice's Commission on Professionalism
DATE: August 12, 2022

The Chief Justice's Commission on Professionalism (Commission), the first body of its kind in the nation, was created in 1989 by the Supreme Court of Georgia with the primary charge to enhance professionalism among Georgia's judges and lawyers. **Chief Justice Michael P. Boggs** serves as the current Chair of the Commission. Other judges who serve on the Commission are as follows: **Judge Clyde L. Reese III** for the Court of Appeals of Georgia; **Judge Shondeana Crews Morris** (Stone Mountain Judicial Circuit) for the Council of Superior Court Judges; and **Chief Judge T. Russell McClelland III** (State Court of Forsyth County) for the Council of State Court Judges. **Judge Steven D. Grimberg** serves on the Commission for the federal judiciary. **Justice Shawn Ellen LaGrua** is the Supreme Court of Georgia advisor to the Commission. You may find a complete list of Commission members, advisors, and liaisons at the Commission's web site at <http://cjcpga.org/commission-members-2022-2023/>. A brief update of some of the Commission's activities is as follows.

COMMISSION MEMBERSHIP, ADVISOR, AND LIAISON CHANGES

The Commission thanked the Commission members who retired from the Commission on June 30, 2022, after the completion of their terms of service as follows: **Judge William M. Ray, II**; **Dr. Monica Willis-Parker**; **Ms. Elizabeth L. Fite** and **Ms. Elissa Haynes**. The Commission welcomed several new members beginning July 1, 2022, including **Ms. Cathy Clark Tyler**, who will serve as a layperson representative for the Board of Governors and **Judge Steven Daniel Grimberg** who will serve on the Commission as a representative of the federal judiciary. **Ms. Sarah B. "Sally" Akins** and **Mr. Ron Daniels** will serve on the Commission ex officio as President of the State Bar of Georgia and President of the Young Lawyers Division of the State Bar of Georgia, respectively. In addition, the Commission also welcomed back several Commission members for an additional term. Those members are as follows: **Professor Nathan S. Chapman**, University of Georgia School of Law; **Ms. Molly Barrett Gillis**, The Gillis Law Firm, LLC; and **Judge Shondeana Crews-Morris**, Superior Court of DeKalb County.

Chief Justice David E. Nahmias completed his service as Chair of the Commission upon his retirement from the Supreme Court of Georgia on July 17, 2022. On July 18, 2022, **Chief Justice Michael P. Boggs** became the

new Chair of the Chief Justice’s Commission on Professionalism. The Commission was grateful to former Chief Justice Nahmias for his service to the Commission and was excited to welcome Chief Justice Boggs as our new Chair!

LAW SCHOOL ORIENTATIONS ON PROFESSIONALISM

The Commission staffs the State Bar of Georgia Committee on Professionalism (Committee), currently chaired by Mr. Joshua I. Bosin. In that role, the Commission funds and supports the Committee’s work on the Law School Orientations on Professionalism. The orientations are designed to introduce concepts of legal professionalism to incoming 1L students. Georgia judges and lawyers serve as “Group Leaders” during the orientations to help students learn the meaning of professionalism and why it is important for them as law students. The sub-committee that planned the 2022 law school orientation programs was chaired by **Mr. Michael Herskowitz**, U.S. Attorney’s Office, Northern District of Georgia. The members of the law school orientation on professionalism included several lawyers and two judges, namely **Judge Shukura Ingram**, Superior Court of Fulton County and **Judge Cheveda McCamy**, Alcovy Judicial Circuit. In addition, four law students assisted in revising the hypothetical problems that will be used in 2022. The law students are as follows: **Mats D. Rosen**, J.D. Candidate, 2022, Atlanta’s John Marshall Law School; **Kacey Baine**, J.D. Candidate, 2022, Georgia State University College of Law; **Sara Snowden**, J.D. Candidate, 2022, Mercer University School of Law; and **Christopher O. Brock**, J.D. Candidate, 2022, University of Georgia School of Law.

The dates and plenary speakers for the 2022 Law School Orientations on Professionalism are as follows:

- Atlanta’s John Marshall Law School August 6, 2022 Judge Eric Richardson
State Court of Fulton County

- Georgia State University School of Law August 9, 2022 Chief Justice David E. Nahmias (retired)
Supreme Court of Georgia

- Emory University School of Law August 11, 2022 Senior Judge Janis C. Gordon (Opening)
State Court of DeKalb County

Justice Verda Colvin (Closing)
Supreme Court of Georgia

- Mercer University School of Law August 12, 2022 Judge Connie L. Williford
Superior Court, Macon Judicial Circuit

- University of Georgia School of Law August 12, 2022 Judge R. Stan Baker
United States District Court, SDGA

The Commission thanks Georgia’s judges for their continued support of the professionalism orientations, which are now in their 30th year! Please visit <http://cjcpga.org/law-school-orientations-on-professionalism-2022/> for

more information about the 2022 Law School Orientations on Professionalism.

GRANT APPLICATIONS FOR PROGRAMS OR PROJECTS THAT PROMOTE LEGAL PROFESSIONALISM

The Commission's Grants Committee led by **Ms. Nekia Hackworth Jones** accepted Grant Applications from June 1, 2022, through July 15, 2022. The members of the Commission's Grants Committee, in addition to Ms. Hackworth-Jones are **Judge Clyde Reese, Mr. Francys Johnson, Ms. Nicki Vaughan, and Ms. Jennifer Davis Ward**. The Commission awards grants for programs or projects that promote legal professionalism as set forth in the Commission's Grant Criteria, found at <http://cjcpga.org/grants/>. The Commission received three completed grant applications. The Commission's Grant Committee met on August 3, 2022, to make recommendations regarding grant awards for consideration at the full Commission meeting scheduled for October 26, 2022. At its August 3rd meeting, the Grants Committee also reviewed semi-annual reports from the Commission's four 2021 grant award recipients who are as follows: 1) Judicial Council/Administrative Office of the Courts Georgia Record Restriction/Expungement Clinics; 2) UGA Foundation/Fanning Institute Horace Johnson Peer Court Initiative; 3) Truancy Intervention Project Georgia, Inc. Cultural Competency for Volunteers; and 4) The Mediation Center of the Coastal Empire Mindful Conflict Management CLE.

PROFESSIONALISM PAGE ARTICLES

The Commission communicates with lawyers and judges through the Professionalism Page that appears in each issue of the Georgia Bar Journal, which is published six times per year. The April 2022 Georgia Bar Journal Professionalism Page, entitled *You Can't Make This Stuff Up*, is attached as "Exhibit A." The June 2022 Georgia Bar Journal Professionalism Page, entitled *22nd Annual Justice Robert Benham Awards for Community Service*, is attached as "Exhibit B."

COMMISSION ASSISTANCE WITH BAR ASSOCIATION AND SECTION PROFESSIONALISM CLE PROGRAMS

The Commission's Executive Director is available to assist State Bar of Georgia sections, local and voluntary Bar associations, and other law-related organizations with their professionalism CLE programming. Please contact the Commission's Executive Director if you would like assistance in planning a professionalism CLE program or if you would like to have the Commission's Executive Director to make a professionalism presentation to your organization. Please contact the Commission's Executive Director, Karlise Y. Grier, via e-mail at kygrier@cjcpga.org for information or assistance.

For more information on the Commission's work, please visit www.cjcpga.org.

You Can't Make This Stuff Up

The next time you hear a presumably far-fetched fact pattern in a professionalism CLE or you wonder why a professionalism presenter is talking about something that is apparently obvious, remember there is a reason why.

BY KARLISE Y. GRIER

Often when I present for professionalism CLE trainings, I use hypothetical problems. There are times when attendees seem to feel that the hypothetical problems are “unrealistic” despite the fact that they are usually taken from real life fact patterns where the names have been changed.

Many times, the hypotheticals I use come from disciplinary cases or from reading the pages of the *Daily Report* or

other legal news. Let's look at a few examples, but before I begin, I want to reiterate the late Justice Harold Clarke's now iconic words regarding the difference between ethics and professionalism. Justice Clarke wrote: “[E]thics is a minimum standard *require* of all lawyers while professionalism is a higher standard *expecte* of all lawyers.”¹ I try to use hypothetical that either ask lawyers to consider the

difference between ethics or professionalism or that ask lawyers to consider the choices they make when aspiring to act with professionalism. So, let's consider a few examples.

In December 2021 and January 2022, I had conversations with two individuals in very distinct areas of practice that informed me they were seeing increased incivility in emails. As a result, I did a search for law-



yer email incivility. I was shocked by what I discovered. For example, in a Dec. 11, 2019, *ABA Journal* article, an attorney in California faced sanctions for language he used in emails that made me blush.² Since I train on professionalism, not ethics, I created a hypothetical problem based on this article by cutting and pasting toned-down, non-profane words for some of the actual language the attorney used in his emails. One part of the hypothetical problem I created, however, quoted directly from the article because the attorney facing sanctions told one lawyer in a written email “I know where you live[.]” You can’t make this stuff up. Note that the lawyer who was the subject of the article sent the emails before the COVID-19 pandemic began. Since the pandemic began more than two years ago, I believe we are all a bit more tired and a bit more stressed. My nerves are frayed and I suspect yours are as well. For these reasons, and others, my professionalism trainings, and I hope others, need to discuss more than ever “the basics” of professionalism, which includes civility. Every attorney I speak with during a professionalism training tells me that he or she knows not to put anything in writing that you would not want on the front page of a legal journal. But it happens and we know it happens, otherwise lawyers and judges would not call me to say they are seeing increased incidences of nasty emails. So even though everyone reading this article “knows,” take a moment to absorb the lesson again and think about the things you can do to ensure that your emails remain courteous. Respectfully write what you need to say to articulate your client’s legal position. Then re-read your email to ensure that anything written while you are tired, angry or frustrated is removed. It helps you and it helps your client. (I am making a note to myself to ensure I follow my own advice.)

Lawyers are also sometimes somewhat surprised when I speak to them about the

use of “templates.” So, let’s look at another headline because you can’t make this stuff up. In an article entitled “OK, You Broke Me. I Give Up on Motions in Limine,” Hon. Jane P. Manning, State Court of Cobb County, wrote: “I am routinely cited 19th century caselaw in support of a motion in limine. . . . One of the frustrating things about motions in limine before me is that it is readily apparent that the attorneys have not read their own motions.”³

Ouch! Our professionalism aspirations state as a lawyer, I will aspire: “to expeditious and economical achievement of all client objectives.”⁴ This does not extend, however, to saving client’s money by using boilerplate templates that lawyers do not read. Therefore, I encourage lawyers that the next time you use a template as a starting point for whatever legal work you are doing, the overarching goal for all lawyers should be: “I will strive to represent you as I would want to be represented and to be worthy of your trust.”⁵

In conclusion, the next time you hear a presumably far-fetched fact pattern in a professionalism CLE or you wonder why a professionalism presenter is talking about something that is apparently obvious, remember there is a reason why. One reason is because attorneys should—at least once per year—use “A Lawyer’s Creed” and the “Aspirational Statement on Professionalism” to reexamine the justifications of the practice of law in our society and to consider the implications of those justifications for their conduct.⁶ The second reason is because attorneys actually do stuff you would never imagine they would do. You can’t make this stuff up. ●



Karlise Y. Grier

Executive Director
Chief Justice’s Commission
on Professionalism
kygrier@cjcpga.org

Endnotes

1. *Professionalism: Repaying the Debt*, Presiding Justice Harold G. Clarke, *Georgia State Bar Journal*, Vol. 25 No. 4, p. 170-173 (May 1989)(Emphasis in original).
2. See Debra Weiss, *Lawyer who told BigLaw attorneys to . . . faces possible sanctions*, *ABA Journal, Trials & Litigation* (December 11, 2019), <https://www.abajournal.com/news/article/lawyer-who-told-biglaw-lawyers-to-eat-a-bowl-of-dicks-faces-possible-sanctions> (Last visited Feb. 25, 2022). See also Debra Weiss, *Judge tells lawyer who sent . . . emails the profession doesn’t need him*, *ABA Journal, Trials & Litigation* (December 17, 2019), <https://www.abajournal.com/news/article/profession-doesnt-need-you-judge-tells-lawyer-who-sent-bowl-of-dicks-emails> (Last visited February 25, 2022).
3. Jane P. Manning, *OK, You Broke Me. I Give Up on Motions in Limine*, *The Daily Report* (September 10, 2021), <https://www.law.com/dailyreportonline/2021/09/10/ok-you-broke-me-i-give-up-on-motions-in-limine/> (Last visited Feb. 25, 2022).
4. Chief Justice’s Commission on Professionalism, *A Lawyer’s Creed and Aspirational Statement on Professionalism* at Lines 73-74, <http://cjcpga.org/wp-content/uploads/2019/07/2-Lawyers-CreedAspStatement-v-2013-Line-Number-with-new-logo-and-seal-v07-25-19.pdf> (Last visited Feb. 25, 2022).
5. Chief Justice’s Commission on Professionalism, *A Lawyer’s Creed and Aspirational Statement on Professionalism* at Lines 3-5, <http://cjcpga.org/wp-content/uploads/2019/07/2-Lawyers-CreedAspStatement-v-2013-Line-Number-with-new-logo-and-seal-v07-25-19.pdf> (Last visited Feb. 25, 2022).
6. Chief Justice’s Commission on Professionalism, *A Lawyer’s Creed and Aspirational Statement on Professionalism* at Lines 42-44, <http://cjcpga.org/wp-content/uploads/2019/07/2-Lawyers-CreedAspStatement-v-2013-Line-Number-with-new-logo-and-seal-v07-25-19.pdf> (Last visited Feb. 25, 2022).

22nd Annual Justice Robert Benham Awards for Community Service

The Chief Justice’s Commission on Professionalism is pleased to recognize lawyers and judges who have made significant contributions to their communities and who demonstrate the positive contributions of members of the Bar beyond their legal or official work.

BY KARLISE Y. GRIER

The idea that community service is a component of professionalism has existed as long as the Chief Justice’s Commission on Professionalism (Commission) has existed. In a May 1989 article, former Supreme Court of Georgia Chief Justice Harold G. Clarke discussed the relationship between community service and professionalism as a debt that lawyers owed to society.¹ Justice Clarke posited, “Each lawyer owes a debt to the client, the law, the system of justice, fellow lawyers, and the public.”² He then asserted, “The last and perhaps most important debt to be discussed is the one owed to the public. Professionalism burdens lawyers with a duty to serve and to lead. The grand tradition of the legal profession insists that lawyers not shrink from leadership roles. By nature and training, lawyers possess qualities which uniquely fit them for positions of leadership in both the public and private sector.”³

On March 19, the Commission recognized those lawyers who in the grand tradition of the legal profession have offered themselves for service and leadership at the 22nd Annual Justice Robert Benham Awards for Community Service. Since 1998, the Commission has presented the

awards to honor lawyers and judges in Georgia who have made significant contributions to their communities and who demonstrate the positive contributions of members of the Bar beyond their legal or official work. Service may be made in any field, including but not limited to: social service, education, faith-based efforts, sports, recreation, the arts or politics. The selection committee generally believes that community or public service is not service to a bar association; however, community service can be done through bar-sponsored or related activities or projects.

Award Recognition

Awards are presented to selected attorneys in the judicial districts of Georgia from which nominations are received. The 2022 award recipients were Lindsay Beth Gardner, managing attorney, Georgia Bureau of Investigation, Marietta; Michael D. St. Amand, partner, Gray, Rust, St. Amand, Moffett & Brieske, LLP, Atlanta; and Paul E. Weathington, senior partner, Weathington, LLC, Atlanta.

The Lifetime Achievement Award—the highest recognition the Commission bestows—is reserved for a lawyer or judge

who, in addition to meeting the criteria for receiving the Justice Robert Benham Award for Community Service, has demonstrated an extraordinarily long and distinguished commitment to volunteer participation in the community throughout his or her legal career. The recipients of the 2022 Lifetime Achievement Award were Richard Gerakitis, partner, Troutman Pepper Hamilton Sanders LLP, Atlanta; and S. Wade Malone, partner, Nelson Mullins, Atlanta.

The awards ceremony, which was held at the Loudermilk Conference Center, was perhaps more special this year because it was the first time in two years that some people had been able to gather with others for such an event. During his remarks, Chief Justice David E. Nahmias observed, “A few days ago, on March 14, we marked the two-year anniversary of Gov. Kemp’s declaration of the first-ever statewide Public Health Emergency and Chief Justice Melton’s declaration of the first-ever Statewide Judicial Emergency Order. ... I don’t think any of us imagined two years ago that we would still be dealing with so many consequences of this new disease. But I’m glad that we’re now at a point



Justice Robert Benham,
Supreme Court of Georgia
1990-2020

PHOTO PROVIDED BY JOHN DISNEY, THE DAILY REPORT

where we can safely have gatherings like this one to celebrate together some of the best work that Georgia lawyers are doing in their communities.”

Chief Justice Nahmias also shared that over many years he had witnessed how individual lawyers could use their talents and energy to create tremendously positive impacts on their communities. He also noted that what made the five lawyers the Commission had recognized this year so special was the effect that their remarkable, dedicated and diverse service had on the lives of so many people outside their practices. Justice Shawn Ellen LaGrua who serves as an advisor to the Chief Justice’s Commission on Professionalism and Justice Verda M. Colvin, the most recent addition to the Court, also attended the awards ceremony.

The Commission was especially grateful that Justice Robert Benham, although retired, attended the ceremony with his wife, Nell. Before asking the crowd to stand to acknowledge Justice Benham, Chief Justice Nahmias said, “I wish every Georgia lawyer had the opportunity to learn about professionalism by working with and just watching Justice Benham as I did for more than a decade.”

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Georgia Association of Black
Women Attorneys
Georgia Hispanic Bar Association
Gray, Rust, St. Amand, Moffett
& Brieske, LLP
Karlise Yvette Grier
Adwoa Ghartey-Tagoe Seymour



Front row (left to right): Karlise Y. Grier, executive director, Chief Justice's Commission on Professionalism; Justice Robert Benham (retired), Supreme Court of Georgia; Chief Justice David E. Nahmias, Supreme Court of Georgia. Back row (left to right): Lindsay Beth Gardner; Justice Shawn Ellen LaGrúa, Supreme Court of Georgia, accepting for Paul E. Weathington; Michael D. St. Amand; S. Wade Malone; and Richard Gerakitis.

Thanks and Appreciation

The awards ceremony was successful because of the hard work of many individuals whom I would like to thank. First, the Commission appreciates the work of the Benham Awards selection committee members who determined the award recipients. The members of the selection committee were Janet G. Watts, Watts & Watts, Jonesboro; Hon. Joshua Clark Bell, Bell/Payne, LLC, Whigham; John Michael Dugan, DRL Law LLC, Greensboro; Laverne Lewis Gaskins, Law Office of Laverne Lewis Gaskins, P.C., Augusta; Michael Hobbs, Troutman Pepper, Atlanta; Hon. Joy Lampley-Fortson, U.S. Department of Justice, Atlanta; Chung H. Lee, The Law Office of Lee & Associates PC, Duluth; William J. Liss, WXIA-TV/11Alive, Atlanta; Jennifer Mock, The Mock Law Firm, LLC, Statesboro; Hon. Herbert E. Phipps, Court of Appeals of Georgia (Retired), Albany; Cindy Wang, Georgia Department of Juvenile Justice, Decatur; Hon. Brenda Carol Youmas, Macon. In addition to the selection committee, several individuals volunteered to ensure the awards program was a success. Christopher J. Chan, partner, Eversheds Sutherland (US) LLP, and LaToya Sim-

one Williams, Houston Circuit Public Defenders Office, served as the co-chairs for the planning committee. Adwoa Ghartey-Tagoe Seymour, vice president of litigation, Albertsons Companies, Inc., was an advisor to the planning committee. Additionally, individuals who volunteered to assist during the evening of the awards ceremony were Christopher O. Brock, a 3L at the University of Georgia School of Law; Hon. Tabitha Ponder, judge, Magistrate Court of Cobb County; Samantha Beskin-Schemer, Beskin & Beskin, P.C.; and Paula Myrick, a legal professional in the metro-Atlanta community.

Commission Chair Chief Justice David E. Nahmias, Justice Shawn Ellen LaGrúa and Justice Robert Benham provided guidance and leadership for the awards ceremony throughout the planning process. The Commission could not have hosted the awards ceremony without generosity of the 24 sponsors who supported the event. I am grateful that the members, advisors and liaisons of the Commission continue to understand the role and importance of the awards ceremony in the Commission's work to promote and enhance professionalism among Georgia's lawyers and judges.

Finally, I want to thank Commission staff members Cheyenne Scipio, administrative and communications specialist, and intern Jordyn Irons for providing staff support for the 22nd Annual Justice Robert Benham Awards for Community Service.

The program book and photographs from the ceremony are available at cjcpga.org/benhamcsa22/. ●



Karlise Y. Grier

Executive Director
Chief Justice's Commission
on Professionalism

kygrier@cjcpga.org

Endnotes

1. See Harold G. Clarke, *Professionalism: Repaying the Debt*, 25 Ga. St. B. J. 170 (1989), <http://cjcpga.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/02/25-GSBJ-170-1989-Professionalism-Repaying-the-Debt.-Harold-Clarke-ethics-minimum.pdf>.
2. *Id.*
3. *Id.* at 173.

Justice Robert Benham Award for Community Service: 2022 Honorees



Richard Gerakitis

Lifetime Achievement Award

Has served on the Board of Directors for the YMCA of Metro Atlanta (Metro Y) since the end of 2007; served as secretary of the Metro Y Operating Board since 2013 and served as secretary to the Executive Committee of the Operating Board since 2015.

Served twice as president in 1993-94 and again in 2012-13 of the Rotary Club of Atlanta West End; served on the Mercer School of Law Board of Visitors from 2012 to 2018; served on the Mercer University School of Law Alumni Association Board twice, from 1986-88 and again from 2005 to 2012; served as general counsel for the Christian Council of Metropolitan Atlanta from 1991 to 1994, and the Georgia State Golf Association from 2011 to 2014; served as chairman of the State Bar of Georgia Clients' Security Fund for five years.



S. Wade Malone

Lifetime Achievement Award

Created, in partnership with the Atlanta Bar Association, the Summer Law Internship Program (SLIP). Now 30 years later, this innovative program has provided more than 850 paid internships to Atlanta area high school students, provided rigorous legal education, and connected interns with life-

long mentors. Forty-five former Atlanta Bar Association Summer Law Interns have gone to law school. Seventeen former Interns are presently in law school. One former intern currently serves as a superior court judge. A second former intern currently serves as a district attorney. A third former intern currently serves as a regional director for the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission.



Lindsay Beth Gardner

Fundraised for numerous Cobb County Bar Association's Younger Lawyers Division (Cobb YLD) fundraising events, including:

the Cobb YLD's March Madness event to benefit the Cobb Accountability Courts; the Cobb Bar's golf tournaments to benefit the Children's Emergency Fund; and the Cobb Bar's Sleighbells on the Square event. Choreographed routines and headlined performances for the Cobb YLD competitors in the Justice Jam lip sync competition benefiting the Cobb Legal Aid office, winning three years in a row; participated in Communities In Schools' Annual Adult Spelling Bee.



Michael D. St. Amand

Started a Cub Scout Pack in 2008 and led the pack until 2012. Has volunteered with Big Brothers/Big Sisters as a Big Brother since 1985.

Regularly visited children at Georgia Regional Hospital during the holiday season as part of the Atlanta Bar Association Santa Project. Volunteered as a food-rescue driver for Second Helpings for more than 15 years. Volunteered for Rick McDevitt Youth Center in Peoplestown and the Jerusalem House.



Paul E. Weathington

Has served for 12 years as the Team 6 Usher Captain for a 60+ member usher team; Serves as pro bono attorney for the American

Junior Golf Association and the Atlanta Junior Golf Association; emeritus member of the Touchdown Club of Atlanta Board of Directors; authored and published seven children's books and has visited preschools and elementary schools to read to children and emphasize the importance of reading and literacy.

**partial list of honoree accomplishments*



2022 FISCAL YEAR FINANCIAL REPORT

JULY 2021 – JUNE 2022

FOR REVENUE AND EXPENSES ADMINISTERED BY ICJE OF GEORGIA*

COMPILED BY

Lynne Moore Nelson, Esq., ICJE Executive Director

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**To promote constituent confidence and to foster transparency, this information is made available to all ICJE constituent groups. These reports include ICJE – administered expenses only. For ICJE – administered expenses, any ICJE – maintained document (e.g. contract, invoice, travel reimbursement claim, etc.) is available for review upon request. These expenditures do not include any event expense authorized or administered by a constituent group's leadership or educational apparatus that was not administered by ICJE.*

This financial reporting template was developed in collaboration with the AOC Fiscal Staff; the UGA School of Law Business Office; and, Royals & Associates, CPAs.



SHARED OFFICE OVERHEAD ALLOCATION

FISCAL YEAR FINANCIAL REPORT

1 Overhead allocation based on FY2022 budgeted expenses				
2	Total ICJE FY21 Budgeted Overhead Cost			\$106,589.00
3	Less: Amount Not Allocated To Constituent Groups*			(\$27,556.00)
4	OVERHEAD COSTS SUBJECT TO ALLOCATION:			\$79,033.00
5				
6	Constituent Group	FY22 Budgeted Expense	% of Total Expenses	Allocated Overhead
6	State Court Judges	\$71,664.00	4%	\$3,249.00
7	Juvenile Court Judges	\$71,550.00	4%	\$3,244.00
8	Juvenile Court Clerks	\$22,578.00	1%	\$1,024.00
9	Probate Court Judges – Non Traffic	\$104,647.00	6%	\$4,744.00
10	Probate Court Judges – Traffic	\$39,598.00	2%	\$1,795.00
11	Probate Court Clerks	\$29,213.00	2%	\$1,324.00
12	Magistrate Court Judges	\$228,553.00	13%	\$10,361.00
13	Magistrate Court Clerks	\$23,201.00	1%	\$1,052.00
14	Municipal Court Judges	\$128,264.00	7%	\$5,815.00
15	Municipal Court Clerks	\$106,705.00	6%	\$4,837.00
16	Superior Court Judges	\$550,000.00	32%	\$24,934.00
17	Judicial Staff Attorneys	\$22,352.00	1%	\$1,013.00
18	Accountability Court Judges	\$345,000.00	20%	\$15,641.00
19	TOTALS:	\$1,743,325.00	100%	\$79,033.00

FAQ # 1: Why Are ICJE Constituent Groups Assessed A “Shared Office Overhead” Allocation?

Answer: Because the appropriated funds ICJE receives does not cover the entire cost of ICJE operations. Further, the directive to reduce appropriated funds for FY2021 exacerbates this problem.

FAQ #2: What Is The Overhead Allocation Formula?

Answer: The formula follows a customary method for allocating shared costs as equitably as possible. Specifically, the cost allocation is based on the ratio of each constituent group’s cost before overhead allocation to total costs of all the groups before overhead allocation. The resulting percentage is multiplied by the total cost to allocate a portion of cost to each group.

The end result is that constituent groups with a larger number of members and larger expenditures, will be assessed more overhead costs than constituent groups with a smaller number of members and smaller expenditures.



ICJE ADMINISTRATIVE/OFFICE OVERHEAD

FISCAL YEAR FINANCIAL REPORT

June 2022 – Administrative Office of the Courts

1 APPROPRIATIONS			
2	<i>Appropriated Funds</i>		
3	Administrative Costs Appropriation		\$545,866.00
4	Amended FY22 – COLA Funds Awarded to All State Employees		\$39,488.00
5	TOTAL APPROPRIATIONS:		\$585,354.00
6 EXPENDITURES – PERSONNEL		Monthly Expenses	YTD Expenses
7	<i>(Fund Source 01/Project Code 301)</i>		
8	Quarter 1: Salaries, Benefits & Indirect Costs	\$0.00	-\$123,677.29
9	Quarter 2: Salaries, Benefits & Indirect Costs	\$0.00	-\$143,429.28
10	Quarter 3: Salaries, Benefits & Indirect Costs	\$0.00	-\$201,884.22**
11	Quarter 4: Salaries, Benefits & Indirect Costs	\$0.00	\$0.00
12	TOTAL PERSONNEL EXPENSES:	\$0.00	-\$468,990.79
13	TOTAL APPROPRIATIONS REMAINING:	\$0.00	\$116,363.21
14 SHARED OFFICE OVERHEAD			
15	FY21 Office Overhead Allocation Carryforward		\$13,124.87
16	Constituent Groups Office Overhead Allocation		\$89,353.00*
17	TOTAL SHARED OFFICE OVERHEAD:		\$102,477.87
18 EXPENDITURES – OPERATIONS		Monthly Expenses	YTD Expenses
19	Rent	\$0.00	-\$49,388.40
20	Utilities	\$0.00	\$0.00
21	Janitorial Services	-\$192.00	-\$2,400.00
22	Postage	\$0.00	-\$7.08
23	Miscellaneous Office Supplies	-\$613.07	-\$7,072.72
24	Dues & Memberships	-\$150.00	-\$289.00
25	ICJE Board of Trustees Meetings	-\$873.90	-\$873.90
26	Staff Travel – Executive Director	-\$122.90	-\$228.89
27	Professional Fees (Accounting/Auditing)	\$0.00	-\$12,500.00
28	IT Support – AOC Wifi	-\$152.10	-\$1,622.69
29	IT Support – Hardware, Miscellaneous	\$0.00	\$0.00
30	Software License/Subscriptions	\$0.00	-\$7,535.81
31	TOTAL OVERHEAD EXPENSES:	-\$2,103.97	-\$81,918.49
32	ENDING OVERHEAD FUND BALANCE	-\$2,103.97	\$20,559.38

*This amount furnished to ICJE Staff by the constituent groups at the Georgia Administrative Office of the Courts. A sum of \$32,500.00 was deposited as revenue funds to the ICJE's project 300 fund balance as agreed upon with the Council of Accountability Court Judges for services provided by ICJE staff. A sum of \$56,853.00 was transferred to the ICJE's project 300 fund balance as the overhead allocation. The remaining overhead in the amount \$22,180.00 will be requested for transfer later in FY 2022.

**A total of \$31,390.59 was transferred from the Administrative Office of the Courts to the University of Georgia School of Law to help cover personnel and other expenses that occurred during the 3rd quarter of the fiscal year.

The title and order of overhead categories are based upon overhead expenses listed in the State Bar of Georgia Financial Reports.



ICJE ADMINISTRATIVE

FISCAL YEAR FINANCIAL REPORT

June 2022 – University of Georgia

1	REVENUES		
2	FY21 Funds carried over to FY22 at the University of Georgia		\$25,339.70
3	Transfer of Funds from the Administrative Office of the Courts		\$31,390.59
4	International Judges Conference		\$0.00*
5	TOTAL OPERATING FUNDS:		\$56,730.29
6	EXPENDITURES – OPERATIONS	Monthly Expenses	YTD Expenses
7	Utilities	-\$459.63	-\$2,631.99
8	Postage	\$0.00	\$0.00
9	Miscellaneous Office Supplies	\$0.00	-\$300.00
10	Dues & Memberships	\$0.00	\$0.00
11	IT Support – UGA Wifi	-\$1,333.32	-\$15,999.84
12	IT Support – Hardware, Miscellaneous	\$0.00	-\$2,291.01
13	Copier – UGA	-\$65.73	-\$657.30
14	Copier Overages - UGA	-\$20.72	-\$192.98
15	Telephone Service	-\$51.76	-\$155.30
16	<i>TOTAL OVERHEAD EXPENSES:</i>	-\$1,931.16	-\$22,228.42
17	ENDING OVERHEAD FUND BALANCE	-\$1,931.16	\$34,501.87

*This amount furnished to ICJE Staff by UGA School of Law Business Office. The source of these revenues includes contracted fees for educational training provided in conjunction with the UGA Law School (e.g. International Judge Training provided in collaboration with UGA Law School Dean Rusk Center).

**A total of \$31,390.59 was transferred from the Administrative Office of the Courts to the University of Georgia School of Law to help cover personnel and other expenses that occurred during the 3rd quarter of the fiscal year.

The title and order of overhead categories are based upon overhead expenses listed in the State Bar of Georgia Financial Reports.



STATE COURT JUDGES

FISCAL YEAR FINANCIAL REPORT

Fund Source: 42006 Project Code: 319

Training Mandates: These training events are mandated by Uniform State Court Rule 43.1(A) & 43.1(B). The venues are contracted in collaboration with the CSCJ Educational Programs Committee; CSCJ NJO & Mentoring Committee; and, the CSCJ Executive Committee.

1 BEGINNING FUND BALANCE			
2	Beginning fiscal year fund balance		\$76,489.86*
3	Beginning June 2022 fund balance		\$90,797.88
4 REVENUES			
		Monthly Revenues	YTD Revenues
5	<i>CJE Support Fees</i>		
6	Annual Support Fees	\$2,880.00	\$76,264.00
7	Refunds	\$0.00	-\$160.00
8	<i>TOTAL REVENUES:</i>	\$2,880.00	\$76,104.00
9 EXPENDITURES – EVENTS			
		Monthly Expenses	YTD Expenses
10	<i>Educational Training Events</i>		
11	Fall 2021 Conference	\$0.00	-\$40,195.86
12	New Judge Orientation 2022 Conference	\$0.00	-\$2,360.00
13	Spring 2022 Conference	-\$19,688.62	-\$30,594.28
14	Multi-Class of Court/Online Courses 2022	\$0.00	-\$38.76
15	Fall 2022 Conference	\$0.00	-\$2,100.00
16	Spring 2021 Conference	\$0.00	-\$48.00
17	New Judge Orientation 2023 Conference – Cancellation Fee	-\$4,039.00	-\$4,039.00
18	<i>TOTAL EVENT EXPENSES:</i>	-\$23,727.62	-\$79,375.90
19 EXPENDITURES – MEETINGS			
		Monthly Expenses	YTD Expenses
20	Educational Programs Committee Meetings (ICJE Staff Travel)	\$0.00	\$0.00
21	New Judge Orientation Conference Committee Mtgs (ICJE Staff Travel)	\$0.00	\$0.00
22	ICJE Board Meetings (Board Appointee Travel Reimbursement)	\$0.00	\$0.00
23	<i>TOTAL MEETING EXPENSES:</i>	\$0.00	\$0.00
24 EXPENDITURES - OTHER			
		Monthly Expenses	YTD Expenses
25	Quarterly Postage	\$0.00	-\$3.65
26	Vimeo Subscription Fees	\$0.00	-\$15.05
27	<i>TOTAL OTHER EXPENSES:</i>	\$0.00	-\$18.70
28 SHARED OFFICE OVERHEAD			
		Monthly Expenses	YTD Expenses
29	Pro Rata (\$3,249.00)	\$0.00	-\$3,249.00
30	ENDING FUND BALANCE	-\$20,847.62	\$69,950.26

*Beginning fiscal year fund balance adjusted to reflect true balance given by the Administrative Office of the Courts in October 2021.

⁽¹⁾A miscalculation occurred in the December 2021 financial reports. A total of \$585.59 was calculated twice as expenditures in the total ending fund balance. The correct ending fund balance should have been \$66,500.63. ⁽²⁾In the January 2022 financial reports, the total revenue was reported as \$47,705.00. This total was incorrect and should have been listed as \$45,705.00. The total revenue was corrected in the February 2022 financial reports to reflect the true data. ⁽³⁾A miscalculation occurred during the 01.28.2022 Wells Fargo deposit. A total of \$5,505.00 was deposited into the State Court Judges' fund source/project code. The correct amount should have been \$4,320.00. This correct total is reflected in the March 2022 financial report, located in the revenue section "Annual Support Fees". ⁽⁴⁾A miscalculation occurred in the March 2022 financial reports. The total ending fund balance for the month should have been \$7,576.79, not \$7,314.58; thus, making the total ending balance and beginning April fund balance of \$95,783.92.



JUVENILE COURT JUDGES

FISCAL YEAR FINANCIAL REPORT

Fund Source: 42003 Project Code: 308

Training Mandates: These training events are mandated by OCGA §15-11-59(d); §15-11-62; Uniform Juvenile Court Rule 4.3; 4.4; & CJCJ Executive Committee Protocol. The venues are contracted in collaboration with CJCJ Educational and Certification Committee; and, the CJCJ Executive Committee.

1	BEGINNING FUND BALANCE		
2	Beginning fiscal year fund balance		\$120,625.66*
3	Beginning June 2022 fund balance		\$119,301.15
4	REVENUES	Monthly Revenues	YTD Revenues
5	<i>CJE Support Fees</i>		
6	Annual Support Fees	\$384.00	\$54,528.00
7	Grant – Justice for Children (J4C)	\$0.00	\$10,000.00
8	Refunds	\$0.00	\$0.00
9	<i>TOTAL REVENUES:</i>	\$384.00	\$64,528.00
10	EXPENDITURES – EVENTS	Monthly Expenses	YTD Expenses
11	<i>Educational Training Events</i>		
12	Fall 2021 Conference	\$0.00	-\$27,712.89
13	Spring 2022 Conference	-\$16,041.59	-\$50,550.49
14	Multi-Class of Court/Online Courses	\$0.00	\$0.00
15	<i>TOTAL EVENT EXPENSES:</i>	-\$16,041.59	-\$78,263.38
16	EXPENDITURES – MEETING	Monthly Expenses	YTD Expenses
17	Education and Certification Committee Meetings (ICJE Staff Travel)	\$0.00	\$0.00
18	ICJE Board Meeting (Board Appointee Travel Reimbursement)	\$0.00	\$0.00
19	<i>TOTAL MEETING EXPENSES:</i>	\$0.00	\$0.00
20	EXPENDITURES - OTHER	Monthly Expenses	YTD Expenses
21	Vimeo Subscription Fees	\$0.00	\$0.00
22	Quarterly Postage	\$0.00	-\$2.72
23	Printing/Publications	\$0.00	\$0.00
24	<i>TOTAL OTHER EXPENSES:</i>	\$0.00	-\$2.72
25	SHARED OFFICE OVERHEAD	Monthly Expenses	YTD Expenses
26	Pro Rata (\$3,244.00)	\$0.00	-\$3,244.00
27	ENDING FUND BALANCE	-\$15,657.59	\$103,643.56

*Beginning fiscal year fund balance adjusted to reflect true balance given by the Administrative Office of the Courts in October 2021.



JUVENILE COURT CLERKS

FISCAL YEAR FINANCIAL REPORT

Fund Source: 42000 Project Code: 306

Training Mandates: These training events are mandated by OCGA §15-11-65. The venues are contracted in collaboration with the Georgia Association of Juvenile Court Clerks.

1	BEGINNING FUND BALANCE		
2	Beginning fiscal year fund balance		\$28,652.29*
3	Beginning June 2022 fund balance		\$13,639.13
4	REVENUES	Monthly Revenues	YTD Revenues
5	<i>CJE Support Fees</i>		
6	Annual Support Fees	\$0.00	\$10,950.00
7	Grant – Justice for Children (J4C)	\$0.00	\$0.00
8	Refund	\$0.00	-\$150.00
9	<i>TOTAL REVENUES:</i>	\$0.00	\$10,800.00
10	EXPENDITURES – EVENTS	Monthly Expenses	YTD Expenses
11	<i>Educational Training Events</i>		
12	Annual 2022 Conference	\$0.00	-\$24,789.16
13	<i>TOTAL EVENT EXPENSES:</i>	\$0.00	-\$24,789.16
14	EXPENDITURES – MEETINGS/MISCELLANEOUS	Monthly Expenses	YTD Expenses
16	Georgia Association of Juvenile Court Clerks (ICJE Staff Travel)	\$0.00	\$0.00
17	<i>TOTAL MEETING EXPENSES:</i>	\$0.00	\$0.00
18	EXPENDITURES – OTHER	Monthly Expenses	YTD Expenses
19	Quarterly Postage	\$0.00	\$0.00
20	<i>TOTAL OTHER EXPENSES:</i>	\$0.00	\$0.00
21	SHARED OFFICE OVERHEAD	Monthly Expenses	YTD Expenses
22	Pro Rata (\$1,024.00)	\$0.00	-\$1,024.00
23	ENDING FUND BALANCE	\$0.00	\$13,639.13

*Beginning fiscal year fund balance adjusted to reflect true balance given by the Administrative Office of the Courts.



PROBATE COURT JUDGES – NON TRAFFIC

FISCAL YEAR FINANCIAL REPORT

Fund Source: 42005 Project Code: 315

Training Mandates: These training events are mandated by OCGA §15-9-1.1(a); §15-9-1.1(b); §15-9-2.1(c)(2); Uniform Probate Court Rule 14.2(A) & 14.2(B); & Probate Judges Training Council Policy. The venues are contracted in collaboration with the Probate Judges Training Council.

1 BEGINNING FUND BALANCES			
2	Beginning fiscal year fund balance*		\$43,012.07*
3	Beginning June 2022 fund balance		\$103,519.25
4 REVENUES			
		Monthly Revenues	YTD Revenues
5	<i>CJE Support Fees</i>		
6	Annual Support Fees	\$0.00	\$121,935.00
7	Refunds	\$0.00	\$0.00
8	<i>TOTAL REVENUES:</i>	\$0.00	\$121,935.00
9 EXPENDITURES – EVENTS			
		Monthly Expenses	YTD Expenses
10	<i>Educational Training Events</i>		
11	Fall 2021 Conference - COAG	\$0.00	-\$2,482.43
12	Spring 2022 Conference	-\$14,877.71	-\$73,644.34
13	New Judge Orientation Conference	\$0.00	\$0.00
14	Multi-Class of Court/Online Courses	\$0.00	-\$155.02
15	<i>TOTAL EVENT EXPENSES:</i>	-\$14,877.71	-\$76,281.79
16 EXPENDITURES – MEETINGS			
		Monthly Expenses	YTD Expenses
17	Probate Judge Training Council Meetings (ICJE Staff Travel)	\$0.00	\$0.00
18	ICJE Board Meeting (Board Appointee Travel Reimbursement)	\$0.00	\$0.00
19	<i>TOTAL MEETING EXPENSES:</i>	\$0.00	\$0.00
20 EXPENDITURES – CERTIFICATE PROGRAM & MENTORING			
		Monthly Expenses	YTD Expenses
21	Non-Traffic Probate Certificate Plaque & Postage	-\$8.74	-\$8.74
22	Mentoring – Travel Reimbursement	\$0.00	\$0.00
23	<i>TOTAL CERTIFICATE & MENTORING EXPENSES:</i>	-\$8.74	-\$8.74
24 EXPENDITURES - OTHER			
		Monthly Expenses	YTD Expenses
25	Vimeo Subscription Fees	\$0.00	\$0.00
26	Quarterly Postage	\$0.00	-\$15.00
27	<i>TOTAL OTHER EXPENSES:</i>	\$0.00	-\$15.00
28 SHARED OFFICE OVERHEAD			
		Monthly Expenses	YTD Expenses
29	Pro Rata (\$4,744.00)	\$0.00	\$0.00
30	ENDING FUND BALANCE*	-\$14,877.71	\$88,641.54

*Beginning fiscal year fund balance adjusted to reflect true balance given by the Administrative Office of the Courts.



PROBATE COURT JUDGES - TRAFFIC

FISCAL YEAR FINANCIAL REPORT

Fund Source: 42005 Project Code: 352

Training Mandates: These training events are mandated by OCGA §15-9-1.1(a); §15-9-1.1(b); §15-9-2.1(c)(2); Uniform Probate Court Rule 14.2(A) & 14.2(B); & Probate Judges Training Council Policy. The venues are contracted in collaboration with the Probate Judges Training Council.

1	BEGINNING FUND BALANCES		
2	Beginning fiscal year fund balance		\$8,060.61*
3	Beginning June 2022 fund balance		\$54,559.27
REVENUES			
5	REVENUES	Monthly Revenues	YTD Revenues
6	<i>CJE Support Fees</i>		
7	Annual Support Fees	\$0.00	\$50,100.00
8	Refunds	\$0.00	-\$240.00
9	<i>TOTAL REVENUES:</i>	\$0.00	\$49,860.00
EXPENDITURES – EVENTS			
10	EXPENDITURES – EVENTS	Monthly Expenses	YTD Expenses
11	<i>Educational Training Events</i>		
12	Annual 2022 Traffic Conference	\$0.00	-\$3,296.50
13	New Judge Orientation	\$0.00	\$0.00
14	Multi-Class of Court/Online Courses	\$0.00	\$0.00
15	<i>TOTAL EVENT EXPENSES:</i>	\$0.00	-\$3,296.50
EXPENDITURES – MEETINGS			
16	EXPENDITURES – MEETINGS	Monthly Expenses	YTD Expenses
17	Probate Judge Traffic Committee Meetings (ICJE Staff Travel)	\$0.00	\$0.00
18	ICJE Board Meeting (Board Appointee Travel Reimbursement)	\$0.00	\$0.00
19	<i>TOTAL MEETING EXPENSES:</i>	\$0.00	\$0.00
EXPENDITURES – CERTIFICATE PROGRAM & MENTORING			
20	EXPENDITURES – CERTIFICATE PROGRAM & MENTORING	Monthly Expenses	YTD Expenses
21	Probate Traffic Certificate Program/Postage	\$0.00	-\$34.30
22	Mentoring – Travel Reimbursement	\$0.00	\$0.00
23	<i>TOTAL CERTIFICATE & MENTORING EXPENSES:</i>	\$0.00	-\$34.30
EXPENDITURES - OTHER			
24	EXPENDITURES - OTHER	Monthly Expenses	YTD Expenses
25	Vimeo Subscription Fees	\$0.00	-\$28.60
26	Quarterly Postage	\$0.00	-\$1.94
27	<i>TOTAL OTHER EXPENSES:</i>	\$0.00	-\$30.54
SHARED OFFICE OVERHEAD			
28	SHARED OFFICE OVERHEAD	Monthly Expenses	YTD Expenses
29	Pro Rata (\$1,795.00)	\$0.00	\$0.00
30	ENDING FUND BALANCE	\$0.00	\$54,559.27

*Beginning fiscal year fund balance adjusted to reflect true balance given by the Administrative Office of the Courts.



PROBATE COURT CLERKS

FISCAL YEAR FINANCIAL REPORT

Fund Source: 42004 Project Code: 314

Training Mandates: These training events are not mandated by statute, uniform rule, or educational apparatus policy. ICJE is pleased to provide them as an accommodation for this group. The venues are contracted in collaboration with the Probate Judges Training Council.

1 BEGINNING FUND BALANCES			
2	Beginning fiscal year fund balance*		\$13,771.90*
3	Beginning June 2022 fund balance		\$53,977.04
4 REVENUES			
		Monthly Revenues	YTD Revenues
5	<i>CJE Support Fees</i>		
6	Annual Support Fees	\$7,590.00	\$51,780.00
7	Refunds	\$0.00	-\$165.00
8	<i>TOTAL REVENUES:</i>	\$7,590.00	\$51,615.00
9 EXPENDITURES – EVENTS			
		Monthly Expenses	YTD Expenses
10	<i>Educational Training Events</i>		
11	LWEG & Traffic Training – June 2021 (occurred during FY 2021)	\$0.00	-\$2,329.30
12	LWEG & Traffic Training - July 2021	\$0.00	\$0.00
13	LWEG & Traffic Training - August 2021	\$0.00	\$0.00
14	LWEG & Traffic Training - July 2022	\$0.00	-\$133.30
15	<i>TOTAL EVENT EXPENSES:</i>	\$0.00	-\$2,462.60
16 EXPENDITURES – MEETINGS/POSTAGE			
		Monthly Expenses	YTD Expenses
17	Educational Apparatus Meetings	\$0.00	\$0.00
18	<i>TOTAL MEETING EXPENSES:</i>	\$0.00	\$0.00
19 EXPENDITURES – OTHER			
		Monthly Expenses	YTD Expenses
20	Quarterly Postage	\$0.00	-\$8.83
21	Training Certificate Program	\$0.00	-\$24.43
22	<i>TOTAL OTHER EXPENSES:</i>	\$0.00	-\$33.26
23 SHARED OFFICE OVERHEAD			
		Monthly Expenses	YTD Expenses
24	Pro Rata (\$1,324.00)	\$0.00	-\$1,324.00
25	ENDING FUND BALANCE*	\$7,590.00	\$61,567.04

*Beginning fiscal year fund balance adjusted to reflect true balance given by the Administrative Office of the Courts.



MAGISTRATE COURT JUDGES

FISCAL YEAR FINANCIAL REPORT

Fund Source: 42001 Project Code: 337

Training Mandates: These training events are mandated by OCGA §15-10-25; §15-10-131; §15-10-136(2); §15-10-137(a); §15-10-137(c)(1); §15-10-233; & Magistrate Court Training Council Policy. The venues are contracted in collaboration with the Executive Council of the Council of Magistrate Court Judges of Georgia.

1 BEGINNING FUND BALANCES			
2	Beginning fiscal year fund balance		\$222,033.39*
3	Beginning June 2022 fund balance		\$267,451.63
4 REVENUES			
5	<i>CJE Support Fees</i>	Monthly Revenues	YTD Revenues
6	Annual Support Fees	\$9,400.00	\$191,900.00
7	Refunds	\$0.00	\$0.00
8	TOTAL REVENUES:	\$9,400.00	\$191,900.00
9 EXPENDITURES – EVENTS			
10	<i>Educational Training Events</i>	Monthly Expenses	YTD Expenses
11	2021 40 Hr. Basic Civil Certification	\$0.00	-\$4,913.02
12	Fall 2021 Recertification	\$0.00	-\$152.70
13	Chief Judges' 2022 Update	-\$229.63	-\$26,716.05
14	2022 40 Hr. Criminal Certification	\$0.00	-\$51,001.94
15	Spring 2022 Recertification	-\$510.66	-\$36,918.12
16	Multi-Class of Court/Online Courses	\$0.00	-\$736.40
17	Financial Assistance for National Training	\$0.00	\$0.00
18	TOTAL EVENT EXPENSES:	-\$740.29	-\$120,438.23
19 EXPENDITURES – MEETINGS & MENTORING			
20	Magistrate Judge Training Council Meetings (Judge & ICJE Staff Travel)	\$0.00	\$0.00
21	ICJE Board Meeting (Board Appointee Travel Reimbursement)	-\$106.34	-\$106.34
22	Mentoring – Travel Reimbursements	\$0.00	-\$189.91
23	TOTAL MEETINGS & MENTORING EXPENSES:	-\$106.34	-\$296.25
24 EXPENDITURES – PUBLICATIONS/PRINTING			
25	Benchbook	\$0.00	\$0.00
26	40 Hr. Civil: Landlord/Tenant Law (40 Hr. Civil Training Event)	\$0.00	-\$6,673.39
27	40 Hr. Criminal: GA Law Enforcement Handbook	\$0.00	\$0.00
28	40 Hr. Criminal: GA Magistrate Court Handbook	\$0.00	\$0.00
29	TOTAL PUBLICATION/PRINTING EXPENSES:	\$0.00	-\$6,673.39
30 EXPENDITURES – OTHER			
31	Vimeo Subscription Fees	\$0.00	-\$148.45
32	Quarterly Postage	\$0.00	-\$11.07
33	Supplies (Name Badges)	-\$81.06	-\$81.06
34	TOTAL OTHER EXPENSES:	-\$81.06	-\$240.58
35 SHARED OFFICE OVERHEAD			
36	Pro Rata (\$10,361.00)	\$0.00	-\$10,361.00
37	ENDING FUND BALANCE	\$8,472.31	\$275,923.94

*Beginning fiscal year fund balance adjusted to reflect true balance given by the Administrative Office of the Courts in October 2021. An adjustment was made for the 40 Hr Civil Conference: Landlord/Tenant Law books in the month of May; it should have been reported as \$6,673.39, not \$6,673.79. The fund balance has been corrected to reflect the real numbers. An adjustment was made in the month of May - \$124.05 was reported as an expense for the Spring Recertification Prepared by: J. Chaffee on 7/13/2022 for the Chief's Update. The fund balance has been corrected to reflect the real numbers.11



MAGISTRATE COURT JUDGES HISTORIC RESERVES*

Fund Source: 42001 Project Code: 371

To promote constituent confidence and to foster transparency, this information is made available to all ICJE constituent groups. These reports include ICJE – administered expenses only. For ICJE – administered expenses, any ICJE – maintained document (e.g. contract, invoice, travel reimbursement claim, etc.) is available for review upon request. These expenditures do not include any event expense authorized or administered by this group’s leadership or educational apparatus that was not administered by ICJE.

1	HISTORICAL RESERVES	TOTAL RESERVES
2	Total Funds	\$49,289.30
3	EXPENDITURES – APPROVED BY MCTC	TOTAL EXPENDITURES
4	Professional Fees – Royals & Associates, CPA (2020)	\$262.50
5	<i>TOTAL EXPENDITURES:</i>	\$262.50
6	TOTAL HISTORICAL RESERVES REMAINING:	\$49,026.80

**The amounts on this sheet were designated as “historic reserves” by the ICJE Board of Trustees’ Budget Committee. Since July, 2017, the AOC, as ICJE’s fiscal agent, has held these “historic reserves”. Prior to July, 2017, the “historic reserves” were on deposit at SunTrust Bank in two accounts: the account labeled “Magistrate” contained \$49,289.30 at the time of account closure and transfer to AOC fiscal; and, the account labeled “Municipal” contained \$116,501.03 at the time of account closure and transfer to AOC fiscal. The closure of the two accounts and the transfer of the funds in those accounts over to AOC fiscal in July 2017 was based upon the recommendation of the AOC Chief Financial Officer.*

On October, 23, 2020, the ICJE Board of Trustees unanimously approved the following motion:

MOTION:

The amount of \$49,026.80, currently designated as “Historic Reserves” (“Magistrate” Project Code 371) be transferred/reallocated/redesignated as soon as practicable to Fund Source 42001 “Magistrate Court Judges”; and that the full amount of the \$49,026.80 be expended for future expenditures of educational events; meetings; publications; mentoring; and, shared office overhead, for Magistrate Court Judges in the same manner that revenues derived from annual CJE Support Fees are expended as directed by the Magistrate Court Training Council.



MAGISTRATE COURT CLERKS

FISCAL YEAR FINANCIAL REPORTS

Fund Source: 42008 Project Code: 331

Training Mandates: *These training events are not mandated by statute, uniform rule, or educational apparatus policy. ICJE is pleased to provide them as an accommodation for this group. The venues are contracted in collaboration with the Executive Council of the Council of Magistrate Courts Clerks Incorporated.*

1	BEGINNING FUND BALANCE		
2	Beginning fiscal year fund balance		\$12,672.21*
3	Beginning June 2022 fund balance		\$41,874.89
4	REVENUES	Monthly Revenues	YTD Revenues
5	<i>CJE Support Fees</i>		
6	Annual Support Fees	\$1,575.00	\$32,175.00
7	Refunds	-\$1,350.00	-\$1,575.00
8	<i>TOTAL REVENUES:</i>	\$225.00	\$30,600.00
9	EXPENDITURES – EVENTS	Monthly Expenses	YTD Expenses
10	Clerks Annual 2022 Conference	-\$1,992.41	-\$1,992.41
11	<i>TOTAL EVENT EXPENSES:</i>	-\$1,992.41	-\$1,992.41
12	EXPENDITURES – MEETINGS	Monthly Expenses	YTD Expenses
13	Educational Apparatus Meetings	\$0.00	-\$93.60
14	<i>TOTAL MEETING EXPENSES:</i>	\$0.00	-\$93.60
15	EXPENDITURES - OTHER	Monthly Expenses	YTD Expenses
16	Vimeo Subscription Fees	\$0.00	\$0.00
17	Quarterly Postage	\$0.00	-\$2.72
18	CLE Fees (2021 Annual Conference)	\$0.00	-\$24.00
19	<i>TOTAL OTHER EXPENSES:</i>	\$0.00	-\$26.72
20	SHARED OFFICE OVERHEAD	Monthly Expenses	YTD Expenses
21	Pro Rata (\$1,052.00)	\$0.00	-\$1,052.00
22	ENDING FUND BALANCE	-\$1,767.41	\$40,107.48

*Beginning fiscal year fund balance adjusted to reflect true balance given by the Administrative Office of the Courts in October 2021.



MUNICIPAL COURT JUDGES

FISCAL YEAR FINANCIAL REPORT

Fund Source: 42002 Project Code: 344

Training Mandates: These training events are mandated by OCGA §36-32-27 (b) & (c); Municipal Court Training Council Policy. The venues are contracted in collaboration with the Municipal Court Training Council.

1 BEGINNING FUND BALANCES			
2	Beginning fiscal year fund balance		\$174,793.60*
3	Beginning June 2022 fund balance		\$200,241.43
4 REVENUES			
		Monthly Revenues	YTD Revenues
5	<i>CJE Support Fees</i>		
6	Annual Support Fees	\$5,525.00	\$76,050.00**
7	Refunds	\$0.00	\$0.00
8	<i>TOTAL REVENUES:</i>	\$5,525.00	\$76,050.00**
9 EXPENDITURES – EVENTS			
		Monthly Expenses	YTD Expenses
10	<i>Educational Training Events</i>		
11	2021 Summer 20 Hr. Recertification / Law & Practice	\$0.00	-\$4,347.61
12	Fall 2021 20 Hr. Recertification / Law & Practice	\$0.00	-\$31,547.89
13	Summer 2022 20 Hr. Recertification / Law & Practice	-\$16,862.58	-\$16,862.58
14	Multi-Class of Court/Online Courses	\$0.00	-\$310.07
15	Financial Assistance for National Training	\$0.00	\$0.00
16	September 2022 20 Hr. Recertification / Law & Practice	-\$1,750.00	-\$1,750.00
17	<i>TOTAL EVENT EXPENSES:</i>	\$18,612.58	-\$54,818.15
18 EXPENDITURES – MEETINGS			
		Monthly Expenses	YTD Expenses
19	Municipal Judge Training Council Meetings (Judge & ICJE Staff Travel)	\$0.00	\$0.00
20	ICJE Board Meeting (Board Appointee Travel Reimbursement)	\$0.00	\$0.00
21	<i>TOTAL MEETING EXPENSES:</i>	\$0.00	\$0.00
22 EXPENDITURES - PUBLICATIONS			
		Monthly Expenses	YTD Expenses
23	Benchbook/Purchased Publication	\$0.00	-\$3,000.00
24	<i>TOTAL PUBLICATION EXPENSES:</i>	\$0.00	-\$3,000.00
25 EXPENDITURES – OTHER			
		Monthly Expenses	YTD Expenses
26	Vimeo Subscription Fees	\$0.00	-\$50.81
27	Quarterly Postage	\$0.00	-\$5.79
28	<i>TOTAL OTHER EXPENSES:</i>	\$0.00	-\$56.51
29 SHARED OFFICE OVERHEAD			
		Monthly Expenses	YTD Expenses
30	Pro Rata (\$5,815.00)	\$0.00	-\$5,815.00
31 ENDING FUND BALANCE			
		-\$13,087.58	\$187,153.85

*Beginning fiscal year fund balance adjusted to reflect true balance given by the Administrative Office of the Courts in October 2021.

**The total revenue from the February financial reports was not calculated correctly. The correct revenue total should have been recorded at \$48,750.00. This has been corrected for the March financial reports.

An adjustment was made in the May Financial Reports: an expense for \$12.00 was not reported in the March financials for the Fall 2021 20 Hr. Recertification/Law & Practice conference. This expense has been added to the totals & is reflected in the fund balance.



MUNICIPAL COURT JUDGES HISTORIC RESERVES*

Fund Source: 42002 Project Code: 371

To promote constituent confidence and to foster transparency, this information is made available to all ICJE constituent groups. These reports include ICJE – administered expenses only. For ICJE – administered expenses, any ICJE – maintained document (e.g. contract, invoice, travel reimbursement claim, etc.) is available for review upon request. These expenditures do not include any event expense authorized or administered by this group’s leadership or educational apparatus that was not administered by ICJE.

	HISTORICAL RESERVES	TOTAL RESERVES
1	Total Funds	\$116,501.03
	EXPENDITURES – APPROVED BY CMCI	TOTAL EXPENDITURES
3	Professional Fees – Royals & Associates, CPA	-\$262.50
4	Studdard on Criminal Law Annual Subscription – Hon. Ben Studdard	-\$2,250.00
5	<i>TOTAL EXPENDITURES:</i>	<i>-\$2,512.50</i>
6		
7	TOTAL HISTORICAL RESERVES REMAINING:	\$113,988.53

**The amounts on this sheet were designated as “historic reserves” by the ICJE Board of Trustees’ Budget Committee. Since July, 2017, the AOC, as ICJE’s fiscal agent, has held these “historic reserves”. Prior to July, 2017, the “historic reserves” were on deposit at SunTrust Bank in two accounts: the account labeled “Magistrate” contained \$49,289.30 at the time of account closure and transfer to AOC fiscal; and, the account labeled “Municipal” contained \$116,501.03 at the time of account closure and transfer to AOC fiscal. The closure of the two accounts and the transfer of the funds in those accounts over to AOC fiscal in July 2017 was based upon the recommendation of the AOC Chief Financial Officer.*

On October, 23, 2020, the ICJE Board of Trustees unanimously approved the following motion:

MOTION:

The amount of \$116,238.53, currently designated as “Historic Reserves” (“Municipal” Project Code 371) be transferred/reallocated/redesignated as soon as practicable to Fund Source 42002 “Municipal Court Judges”; and that the full amount of the \$116,238.53 be expended for future expenditures of educational events; meetings; publications; and, shared office overhead, for Municipal Court Judges in the same manner that revenues derived from annual CJE Support Fees are expended as directed by the Municipal Court Training Council.



MUNICIPAL COURT CLERKS

FISCAL YEAR FINANCIAL REPORT

Fund Source: 42009 Project Code: 345

Training Mandates: These training events are mandated by OCGA §36-32-13(b)(1); §36-32-13(b)(2); & Municipal Court Training Council Policy. The venues are contracted in collaboration with the Georgia Municipal Court Clerks Council.

1 BEGINNING FUND BALANCES			
2	Beginning fiscal year fund balance		\$254,947.55*
3	Beginning June 2022 fund balance		\$180,996.29**
4 REVENUES		Monthly Revenues	YTD Revenues
5	<i>CJE Support Fees</i>		
6	Annual Support Fees (CY 2021 \$0.00/person)	\$4,875.00	\$61,500.00
7	Refunds	\$0.00	-\$300.00
8	<i>TOTAL REVENUES:</i>	\$4,875.00	\$61,200.00
9 EXPENDITURES – EVENTS		Monthly Expenses	YTD Expenses
10	<i>Educational Training Events</i>		
11	Recertification – August 2021	\$0.00	-\$23,667.68
12	16 Hour Certification – September 2021	\$0.00	-\$17,063.07
13	Online Recertification – November 2021	\$0.00	\$0.00
14	Recertification – November 2021	\$0.00	-\$30,783.57
15	16 Hour Certification – February 2022	\$0.00	-\$22,264.42
16	Recertification – March 2022	\$0.00	-\$21,062.06
17	Recertification – November 2022 Venue Deposit	\$0.00	-\$5,000.00
18	Recertification – November 2024 Venue Deposit	\$0.00	-\$5,000.00
19	<i>TOTAL EVENT EXPENSES:</i>	\$0.00	-\$124,840.80
20 EXPENDITURES – MEETINGS		Monthly Expenses	YTD Expenses
21	Educational Apparatus Meetings/Site Visits	\$0.00	-\$495.58
22	<i>TOTAL MEETING EXPENSES:</i>	\$0.00	-\$495.58
23 EXPENDITURES – OTHER		Monthly Expenses	YTD Expenses
24	Quarterly Postage	\$0.00	-\$3.27
25	Vimeo Subscription Fee	\$0.00	-\$99.61
26	Supplies (Name Badges)	-\$121.59	-\$121.59
27	<i>TOTAL OTHER EXPENSES:</i>	-\$121.59	-\$224.47
28 SHARED OFFICE OVERHEAD		Monthly Expenses	YTD Expenses
29	Pro Rata (\$4,837.00)	\$0.00	-\$4,837.00
30 ENDING FUND BALANCE		\$4,753.41	\$185,749.70

*Beginning fiscal year fund balance adjusted to reflect true balance given by the Administrative Office of the Courts.

**There were two (2) travel expenditures that occurred for the Municipal Court Clerks that were not previously included in the October and November 2021 financial reports. These expenses have been included and recorded accordingly, thus making the beginning December 2021 fund balance at \$207,868.25. Adjustments were made in the month of May for the following items: (1) an expense of \$160.41 was reported for the August 2021 Recertification conference when it should have been reported for the September 2021 16 Hour Certification Conference. The new totals for these conferences are reflected in the fund balance; and (2) an expense of \$916.04 was calculated twice for the November 2021 Recertification Conference as well as a \$0.50 for the venue costs. The total for this conference is reflected in the fund balance.



SUPERIOR COURT JUDGES

FISCAL YEAR FINANCIAL REPORT

Fund Source: 42007 Project Code: 323

Training Mandates: Training expenses are addressed by OCGA §15-6-32; training is mandated by Uniform Superior Court Rule 43; and, by CSCJ MCJE Committee Protocol. The venues are contracted in collaboration with CSCJ MCJE Committee; and, CSCJ Executive Committee.

1	BEGINNING FUND BALANCE		
2	Beginning fiscal year fund balance		\$471,896.22*
3	Beginning June 2022 fund balance		\$158,509.95**
4	REVENUES	Monthly Revenues	YTD Revenues
5	Appropriated Funds	\$0.00	\$155,000.00
6	<i>TOTAL REVENUES:</i>	\$0.00	\$155,000.00
7	EXPENDITURES - EVENTS	Monthly Expenses	YTD Expenses
8	<i>Educational Training Events</i>		
9	Summer 2021 Conference (217 Attendees)	\$0.00	-\$396,780.29
10	New Judge Orientation 2022 Conference	\$0.00	-\$35,323.01
11	Winter 2022 Conference	\$0.00	-\$5,912.94
12	Judicial Staff Attorneys' CLE Hours (2021 Winter Conference)	\$0.00	-\$4,166.00
13	Summer 2023 Conference	-\$92.64	-\$92.64
14	<i>TOTAL EVENT EXPENSES:</i>	-\$92.64	-\$442,274.88
15	EXPENDITURES – MEETINGS	Monthly Expenses	YTD Expenses
16	CSCJ Meetings (ICJE Staff Travel)	\$0.00	\$0.00
17	ICJE Board Meetings (Board Appointee Travel Reimbursement)	-\$411.01	-\$411.01
18	<i>TOTAL MEETING EXPENSES:</i>	-\$411.01	-\$411.01
19	EXPENDITURES – OTHER	Monthly Expenses	YTD Expenses
20	Vimeo Subscription Fees	\$0.00	-\$256.48
21	Quarterly Postage	\$0.00	-\$0.55
22	<i>TOTAL OTHER EXPENSES:</i>	\$0.00	-\$257.03
23	SHARED OFFICE OVERHEAD	Monthly Expenses	YTD Expenses
24	Pro Rata – (\$25,947.00 for Superior Court Judges & Judicial Staff Attorneys)	\$0.00	-\$25,947.00
25	ENDING FUND BALANCE	-\$503.65	\$158,006.30

*Beginning fiscal year fund balance adjusted to reflect true balance given by the Administrative Office of the Courts in October 2021

(1)A travel expenditure from the Summer Conference was not included in the previous financial reports. This expense has been included and recorded accordingly, thus making the December beginning fund balance at \$202,435.05. (2)Revenue of \$155,000.00 should have only been reported for August.

Superior Court Judges' Educational Training & Appropriated Funds: The revenue source for all amounts shown on this report for Superior Court Judge educational training is appropriated funds; specifically, appropriations to the Council of Superior Court Judges of Georgia ("CSCJ"). ICJE facilitates three educational programs for CSCJ each year: (1) Summer Conference; (2) Winter Conference; and, (3) New Judge Orientation. ICJE invoices CSCJ for the expense of each event; and, CSCJ, using funds appropriated to CSCJ, pays ICJE. This transaction represents a payment of a CJ Support Fee on behalf of each Superior Court Judge by CSCJ. The amounts paid during each fiscal year varies, depending on the cost of the events. These funds are included in the ICJE Fiscal Year Budget.

Superior Court Judges' Travel Reimbursement & Appropriated Funds: In addition to paying ICJE for the cost of training events, CSCJ also pays for Superior Court Judges' allowable travel expenses associated with training events. (OCGA §15-6-32). The revenue source for the travel expenses is appropriated funds; specifically, appropriations to the Council of Superior Court Judges of Georgia ("CSCJ"). The amounts paid during each fiscal year varies, depending on the amount of allowable travel expenses. **All funds received by ICJE are deposited with the AOC as fiscal agent. The revenue is subsequently identified, designated, and the expenditures tracked, in accordance with the State Accounting Policy and Procedure/Accounting Manual Reference.**



JUDICIAL STAFF ATTORNEYS

FISCAL YEAR FINANCIAL REPORT

Fund Source: 42006 Project Code: 367

Training Mandates: *These events fulfill Continuing Legal Education Requirements promulgated in State Bar of Georgia Rule 8-104. The venues are contracted in collaboration with the Superior Court Judges' MCJE Committee; and, the State Court Judges' Educational Programs Committee.*

1	BEGINNING FUND BALANCE		
2	Beginning fiscal year fund balance		\$5,259.83
3	Beginning June 2022 fund balance		\$5,259.83
4	REVENUES	Monthly Revenues	YTD Revenues
5	Appropriated Funds (CSCJ pays for Superior Court) (Fund Source 42007)		
6	Registration Fees	\$0.00	\$0.00
7	<i>TOTAL REVENUES:</i>	\$0.00	\$0.00
8	EXPENDITURES - EVENTS	Monthly Expenses	YTD Expenses
9	<i>Educational Training Events (Fund Source 42007/Project Code 323)</i>		
10	Annual Conference	\$0.00	\$0.00
11	<i>TOTAL EVENT EXPENSES:</i>	\$0.00	\$0.00
12	EXPENDITURES – MEETINGS	Monthly Expenses	YTD Expenses
13	Educational Apparatus Meetings	\$0.00	\$0.00
14	<i>TOTAL MEETING EXPENSES:</i>	\$0.00	\$0.00
15	EXPENDITURES – OTHER	Monthly Expenses	YTD Expenses
16	Quarterly Postage	\$0.00	\$0.00
17	<i>TOTAL OTHER EXPENSES:</i>	\$0.00	\$0.00
18	SHARED OFFICE OVERHEAD	Monthly Expenses	YTD Expenses
19	Pro Rata (\$1,013.00*)	\$0.00	\$0.00
20	ENDING FUND BALANCE	\$0.00	\$5,259.83

**The Judicial Staff Attorneys' portion of shared office overhead funds is paid for by the Council of Superior Court Judges from Fund Source 42007, Project Code 323 and is reflected in the Superior Court Judges' Fiscal Year Financial Report.*



ACCOUNTABILITY COURT JUDGES

FISCAL YEAR FINANCIAL REPORT

Fund Source: 44195 Project Code: 368

Training Mandates: Training is mandated by Article 10 – Training, of the CACJ Rules and Regulations; and by CACJ Standing Committee on Training Protocol. The venues are contracted in collaboration with CACJ Executive Committee; and, CACJ Executive Director.

1 BEGINNING FUND BALANCE			
2	Beginning fiscal year fund balance		\$38,965.70*
3	Beginning June 2022 fund balance		\$32,422.30
4 REVENUES			
		Monthly Revenues	YTD Revenues
5	Annual Training Conference (Revenue from grant)	\$0.00	\$267,059.30
6	New Judge Orientation	\$0.00	\$0.00
7	<i>TOTAL REVENUES:</i>	\$0.00	\$267,059.30
8 EXPENDITURES - EVENTS			
		Monthly Expense	YTD Expenses
9	<i>Educational Training Events</i>		
10	Annual Training Conference (Expenditures not paid from grant)	\$0.00	-\$6,523.40
11	Annual Training Conference (Expenditures paid from grant)	\$0.00	-\$267,059.30**
12	New Judge Orientation	\$0.00	\$0.00
13	<i>TOTAL EVENT EXPENSES:</i>	\$0.00	-\$273,582.70
14 EXPENDITURES – MEETINGS			
		Monthly Expenses	YTD Expenses
15	Educational Apparatus Meetings	\$0.00	\$0.00
16	<i>TOTAL MEETING EXPENSES:</i>	\$0.00	\$0.00
17 EXPENDITURES – OTHER			
		Monthly Expenses	YTD Expenses
18	Vimeo Subscription Fees	\$0.00	\$0.00
19	Quarterly Postage	\$0.00	\$0.00
20	<i>TOTAL OTHER EXPENSES:</i>	\$0.00	\$0.00
21 SHARED OFFICE OVERHEAD			
		Monthly Expenses	YTD Expenses
22	Pro Rata (\$15,641.00)	\$0.00	\$0.00
23	ENDING FUND BALANCE:	\$0.00	\$32,422.30

*Beginning fiscal year fund balance adjusted to reflect true balance given by the Administrative Office of the Courts.

**An adjustment was made in February 2022 in the sum of \$249,849.30 for venue expenses. This adjustment did not change the total cost of the Annual Training Conference of \$267,059.30.



GEORGIA COMMISSION ON FAMILY VIOLENCE

(GRANT – DOMESTIC VIOLENCE BENCH BOOK)

FISCAL YEAR FINANCIAL REPORT

Fund Source: 42012 Project Code: 353

**To promote constituent confidence and to foster transparency, this information is made available to all ICJE constituent groups. These reports include ICJE – administered expenses only. For ICJE – administered expenses, any ICJE – maintained document (e.g. contract, invoice, travel reimbursement claim, etc.) is available for review upon request. These expenditures do not include any event expense authorized or administered by this group’s leadership or educational apparatus that was not administered by ICJE.*

1 BEGINNING BALANCES			
2	Beginning fiscal year balance		\$0.00
3	Beginning June 2022 balance		\$0.00
4 REVENUES		Monthly Revenues	YTD Revenues
5	VAWA Grant Funds	\$0.00	\$15,000.00
6	<i>TOTAL REVENUES:</i>	\$0.00	\$15,000.00
7 EXPENDITURES – CONTRACTS		Monthly Expenses	YTD Expenses
8	<i>Services by Subcontractor</i>		
9	Joan Prittie – Attorney (Invoice #1)	\$0.00	-\$7,500.00
10	Joan Prittie – Attorney (Invoice #2)	\$0.00	-\$7,500.00
11	<i>TOTAL CONTRACT EXPENSES:</i>	\$0.00	-\$15,000.00
12	ENDING FUND BALANCE	\$0.00	\$0.00